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Oceans and the law of the sea

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Available assistance to and measures that may be taken by developing States, in particular the least developed States and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, to realize the benefits of sustainable and effective development of marine resources and uses of the oceans within the limits of national jurisdiction

Study prepared by the Secretariat**

Summary

The present material has been prepared in compliance with the request made by the General Assembly in paragraph 88 of resolution 61/222 that the Secretary-General prepare a study, in cooperation with and based on information provided by States and competent international organizations and global and regional funding agencies, on the available assistance to and measures that may be taken by developing States, in particular the least developed States and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, to realize the benefits of sustainable and effective development of marine resources and uses of the oceans within the limits of national jurisdiction.

* A/63/150 and Corr.1.

** Owing to the page limit, this study contains a concise presentation of the most important elements of information provided by States and competent international organizations and global and regional funding agencies and of information otherwise available in the public domain.

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I. Introduction

1. In paragraph 88 of its resolution 61/222, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to prepare a study, in cooperation with and based on information provided by States and competent international organizations and global and regional funding agencies, on the available assistance to and measures that may be taken by developing States, in particular the least developed States and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, to realize the benefits of sustainable and effective development of marine resources and uses of the oceans within the limits of national jurisdiction. The Assembly also requested the Secretary-General to present the study to it at its sixty-third session and to report to it at its sixty-second session on progress in the preparation of the study.

2. In reporting on the progress in the preparation of the study, in the addendum to his report on oceans and the law of the sea (A/62/66/Add.1, para. 161), the Secretary-General informed Member States that, by a note dated 15 January 2007, the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs had requested the permanent missions of Member States to transmit, by the end of May 2007, the information requested in paragraph 88 of resolution 61/222. The Division subsequently sent a similar request to the competent international organizations and global and regional funding agencies (para. 161).

3. In the addendum to his report, the Secretary-General also informed Member States that in response to its note, the Division had received information from Benin (12 July 2007), Germany (8 June 2007), Japan (5 June 2007), Mauritius (7 September 2007), Mexico (14 May 2007), Norway (18 July 2007), Peru (24 August 2007) and Sri Lanka (2 May 2007). The replies received identified the challenges faced and measures taken in realizing the benefits of the sustainable and effective development of marine resources and uses of the oceans within the limits of national jurisdiction. Some States suggested measures to address those challenges and made concrete offers of assistance to potential "partner" developing countries on the basis of their respective experiences in marine development in many regions of the world (A/62/66/Add.1, para. 162). In the addendum to his report, the Secretary-General also pointed out that due to the limited number of responses that had been received at the time of the preparation of the report, the Secretariat was not in a position to make conclusive statements on the prospective content of the study. The Secretariat underlined, however, that any comprehensive study on assistance available to and measures to be taken by developing States was very much dependent on the provision of information by a greater number of States, and also by international organizations and funding agencies (para. 163).

4. In paragraph 102 of its resolution 62/215, the General Assembly took note of the information provided by the Secretary-General relating to the study on the assistance available to and measures that may be taken by developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, to realize the benefits of sustainable and effective development of marine resources and uses of the oceans within the limits of national jurisdiction to be presented to it at its sixty-third session pursuant to paragraph 88 of resolution 61/222, urged States and competent international organizations and global and regional funding agencies to provide further information, and requested that a study be prepared in continuing cooperation with such States and organizations on

the basis of information so provided or disseminated and otherwise available in the public domain.

5. Following the adoption of that resolution, the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, through letters dated 17 and 29 January 2008, transmitted another request for additional information to States and specialized agencies, programmes and bodies of the United Nations system, as well as other international organizations.

6. In response to those communications, the Division received information from Australia (14 August 2008), Cuba (25 April 2008), Iraq (9 April 2008), Panama (22 May 2008), Spain (13 March and 13 June) and Sri Lanka (9 April 2008). It also received replies from specialized agencies, programmes and bodies of the United Nations system and other international organizations, namely from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) (22 April 2008), the Asian Development Bank (ADB) (23 April 2008), the Basel Convention (12 February 2008), the Convention on Biological Biodiversity (31 March 2008), the International Hydrographic Organization (10 March 2008), the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (28 February 2008), and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (9 June 2008). In addition, the Division undertook extensive research on information disseminated and otherwise available in the public domain.[1]

7. The Secretary-General wishes to express his appreciation for the input provided by the above-mentioned States, specialized agencies, programmes and bodies of the United Nations system and other international organizations. The review of their responses revealed the presence of certain common key elements for the realization by developing States of the benefits of sustainable and effective development of marine resources and uses of the oceans within the limits of national jurisdiction. Some responses also elaborated on available assistance. In view of the informative value of those responses, they have been posted on the website of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (http://www.un.org/Depts/los).

8. Regarding the information available in the public domain, it is recalled that, in the early 1990s, in response to the request of the General Assembly in its resolution 44/26, the Secretary-General prepared a report that identified the needs of States in regard to the development and management of ocean resources and the measures currently taken by States and by the competent international organizations in response to those needs, and suggested methods and mechanisms for maximizing opportunities for the early realization for all States, during the decade beginning in 1990, of the benefits of the comprehensive legal regime established by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. The response of the Secretary-General

[1] The Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea also received replies from the International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund (31 January 2008), the International Whaling Commission (31 January 2008), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (4 February 2008), the Collective Security Treaty Organization (1 February 2008), the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (20 February 2008), the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (22 February 2008), the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (3 March 2008), the Information Sharing Centre of the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (4 March 2008), the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) (10 March 2008), the Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (18 March 2008) and the Helsinki Commission (25 March 2008). These organizations informed the Division that they were not in a position to provide information of any relevance.

consisted of two parts; the first part, the report on the Law of the Sea: realization of benefits under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea: needs of States in regard to development and management of ocean resources, dated 16 November 1990 (A/45/712), provided a review of the needs of States in the development and management of ocean resources under the regime established by the Convention. The second part, a report on the Law of the Sea: realization of benefits under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea: measures undertaken in response to needs of States in regard to development and management of ocean resources, and approaches for further action, dated 4 December 1991 (A/46/722), provided an overview of measures taken by States and competent international organizations and, in response to the needs identified, dealt with methods and mechanisms for maximizing the opportunities of States for the realization, during the 1990s, of the benefits of the new ocean regime. Those reports still represent a valuable source of information that is of direct relevance to the topic of the study requested by the Assembly in its resolution 61/222.

9. In addition to those referred to above, a number of other reports of the Secretary-General address the availability of assistance to and measures that may be taken by developing States, in particular the least developed States and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, in the context of realization of the benefits of sustainable and effective development of marine resources and uses of the oceans within the limits of national jurisdiction. Those reports are those that deal in particular with sustainable fisheries issues, among them the report on the status and implementation of the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (1995 United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement) and its impact on related or proposed instruments throughout the United Nations system, with special reference to implementation of part VII of the 1995 United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement dealing with the requirements of developing States (A/58/215), the reports on sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Fish Stocks Agreement and related instruments, and the reports on large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing, unauthorized fishing in zones of national jurisdiction and on the high seas, fisheries by-catch and discards, and other developments [2]

10. Other relevant documents are the reports of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea (available at http://www.un.org/Depts/los) and the reports on the work of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea at its meetings[3] and other material emanating from those meetings.

11. Finally, the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea has identified reference material, including reports, studies and documents produced by the specialized agencies and the programmes and bodies of the United Nations system and other international organizations and by non-governmental organizations, as

[2] See, in particular, A/51/404, A/52/557, A/53/473, A/55/386, A/57/459, A/58/215, A/59/298, A/60/189 and A/62/260.

[3] See A/55/274, A/56/121, A/57/80, A/58/95, A/59/122, A/60/99, A/61/156, A/62/169 and A/63/174.

well as articles produced by experts in the fields of ocean affairs, international governance, sustainable development, coastal zone management and marine environment. Owing to the page limitation of the present study, a list of this reference material has been made available online (http://www.un.org/Depts/los).

12. Regarding the major requirements of States for the development of the ocean sector, the in-depth review contained in the report of the Secretary-General dated 16 November 1990 (A/45/712) correctly observed that the applicability of the needs to any particular country would depend on the degree of its progress in marine sector development. Similar to the early 1990s, a disparity continues to exist in national experience. The needs of countries continue to range from the basic needs of those countries which have not yet been in a position to take any substantial measures to develop the ocean potential provided by the Convention to the needs of those developing countries which have developed some capabilities and have taken initiatives in securing jurisdiction over their extended maritime zones, adopting ocean development policies and implementing programmes and projects.

13. Nevertheless, since the early 1990s, there have been shifts in needs, priorities and development goals, and new problems and challenges at the global, regional and national levels have emerged, and the needs have evolved together with those challenges. The present priorities and challenges correspond to a large extent to major themes selected for review by the General Assembly in the context of the meetings of the Consultative Process. Among them are: sustainable fisheries and illegal, unregulated and unreported fisheries; the protection and preservation of the marine environment, especially in coastal areas; marine science; the development and transfer of marine technology as mutually agreed; capacity-building, including the protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems; integrated ocean management; safety of navigation; new sustainable uses of the oceans, including the conservation and management of biological diversity; marine debris; as well as issues related to climate change and sea level rise and mitigation of the impact of natural disasters.

14. Recent developments cannot but reinforce one of the main conclusions of the review prepared in response to the request contained in General Assembly resolution 44/26, namely that the development and management of ocean resources and activities call for a coordinated, centralized and highly sophisticated development response and that the true solution is an effectively integrated national ocean resource policy. National policy formulation and decision-making in ocean resource development and management require improved global knowledge and awareness of the interrelation of complex issues. In formulating national policies, Governments will continue to face an ever increasing variety of rights and concomitant duties, with a larger range of governmental and international activities, involving many sectors and encompassing diverse disciplines. Thus, the main prerequisite for the implementation of any of the measures intended to realize the benefits of sustainable and effective development of marine resources and uses of the oceans within the limits of national jurisdiction is improved governance at the national level, with project management know-how, which facilitates the receipt of available assistance.

15. It also appears that another observation contained in the above-mentioned review has maintained its relevance, namely that although the rights conferred under the Convention on the Law of the Sea are balanced by corresponding obligations, there is a tendency to secure and exercise the rights but to relegate the fulfilment of obligations to a place of secondary importance. There is a continued need for

awareness of this situation and for corrective action at the national level, as appropriate.

16. The enjoyment of rights and compliance with duties cannot be effected in a piecemeal fashion. They can be addressed only through coordinated and concerted action on a number of fronts. The demands for formulating an integrated marine or ocean policy and for the development of a coordinated response flow also from the resource development potential and its prospective contribution to national economies. It also remains true that the many and varied activities that States have to undertake as a consequence of the legal regime, as reflected in the Convention, require that the development of ocean resources should provide a balance among multiple uses and between environmental protection and development and should deal with the necessary trade-offs involved in establishing national priorities.

17. It has been determined, following a thorough review and analysis of the information obtained, that the general conclusions of the in-depth global review prepared in response to the request contained in resolution 44/26 remain valid to a large extent. Therefore, to meet the objectives of paragraph 88 of resolution 61/222, the format of the present study is action-oriented and focuses on providing an overview of the reported sources of assistance available to developing States and on the identification of specific measures which may be taken by States.

18. This approach has been facilitated largely by the fact that there is already a wealth of conclusions and recommendations available, including those which have been agreed upon by States and are contained in General Assembly resolutions on oceans and the law of the sea. As a matter of fact, the reports of the Secretary-General, together with material emanating from the meetings of the Consultative Process, document progress made by States and the international community as a whole since the early 1990s, as well as the current need for assistance.

19. The present study does not purport to cover all issues and all areas. In the identification of priorities, it has been guided to a great extent by the input received from States. It is hoped that through, inter alia, the deliberations in the General Assembly on matters related to oceans and the law of the sea, as well as sustainable fisheries, developing States would provide further feedback from various national ministries and agencies in the implementation, in relation to their national experience with regard to measures in the key areas of sustainable development of marine resources, for example, fisheries, offshore oil and gas, marine minerals, ports and harbours, ocean transportation and coastal recreation, among others, as well as relevant feedback emanating from civil society, including private enterprise, academia and research organizations.

II. Assistance available to developing States

20. **Bilateral and multilateral donors**. On numerous occasions it has been stated that bilateral and multilateral donors should keep their capacity-building programmes under review to ensure that developing countries, and especially the least developed countries, and those that are landlocked, have the ability both to implement the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and to benefit from the many possibilities for the sustainable development of their resources which it offers, and the need to ensure that small island developing States can have access to the full range of skills essential for those purposes. Those programmes should take

full account of the importance of promoting the capacities and skills needed for sustainable management of the oceans and seas in accordance with the Convention as part of their efforts to eradicate poverty and ensure food security.

21. In their input to the study, several developed States and international organizations elaborated on cooperation and assistance projects aimed at capacity-building with a view to enhancing the management of marine resources by developing States. For details on the assistance provided by Member States and international organizations, refer to the website of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (http://www.un.org/Depts/los).

22. **Australia**. Australia's contribution outlined and briefly explained the assistance relevant to paragraph 88 of resolution 61/222. For example, in November 2007, the Australian Agency for International Development released the document entitled "Valuing Pacific Fish — a framework for fisheries-related development assistance in the Pacific". The document sets out an approach to the development of sustainable coastal and oceanic fisheries in the Pacific.

23. Australia also provides assistance to fisheries-related regional organizations in the region of the Pacific — Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency and the Marine Resources Division of the secretariat to the Pacific Community. The Department of Defence of the Government of Australia manages the development and implementation of the Pacific Patrol Boat Programme.

24. Australia has also strong programmes of bilateral assistance, such as fisheries-related funding programmes or institutional strengthening programmes in the small fisheries-dependent States in the central region of the Pacific. It also provides support to developing States in the preparation of submissions on the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf.

25. **Germany**. In its contribution, Germany highlighted a number of bilateral programmes of assistance, in particular in South-East Asia and in Africa.

26. **Japan**. Japan, in particular, underlined its involvement in projects that aim to improve human resources and systems through training and the provision of essential equipment, such as the programme that strengthens the capacity-building assistance in tuna resource management in the Pacific Island States.

27. Japan is taking the lead in this area, in particular in establishing statistical infrastructures concerning tuna fishing in coastal developing States in the Pacific Ocean. As the Government of Japan has pointed out, developing States joining the International Commission of Atlantic Tuna have been increasing with a consequence of insufficiency of statistical information on the total catch, together with the problem of an inappropriate evolution of resources.

28. **Norway**. Norway has highlighted bilateral development cooperation in the area of marine fisheries resources management benefiting countries in Africa, Asia and Central America. Norwegian multilateral support is mainly directed through FAO, that is, for the implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries in countries in the developing world that are members of FAO. Norway also supports the United Nations trust fund set up for capacity-building and

technical assistance in relation to the implementation of the 1995 United Nations Fish Stock Agreement.

29. The Norwegian Oil for Development initiative aims at assisting developing States in their efforts to translate petroleum resources into improved welfare for the inhabitants to improve their international development performance indices. The initiative builds on three main thematic pillars: resource management; revenue management; and environmental protection. Good governance, transparency and accountability are important cross-cutting dimensions.

30. **Spain**. In an effort to assist the fisheries and aquaculture sector of developing countries in achieving sustainable development and in implementing and monitoring compliance with the necessary regulations, Spain has signed memorandums on fisheries and aquaculture cooperation with a number of States in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

31. **Asian Development Bank**. In 2007, six core member countries of the Coral Triangle Initiative requested ADB to help facilitate financing for the Initiative in cooperation with the Global Environment Facility. At present, the Pacific Region Department of ADB is processing regional technical assistance on Coastal and Marine Resources Management in the Coral Triangle of the Pacific.

32. **Convention on Biological Diversity**. In its contribution, the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity highlighted, among other things, the availability of an Internet-based clearing-house mechanism (see http://www.cbd.int/marine/seabed.shtml) through which information on research activities related to deep seabed genetic resources beyond the limits of national jurisdiction is compiled and disseminated.

33. **Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations**. FAO has provided extensive information on its activities to assist coastal developing States, in particular with respect to the African, wider Caribbean and South Pacific regions. In Africa, FAO assistance was channelled through some States, subregional fisheries bodies and the Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic, which covers 22 of such States on the Atlantic coast.

34. **International Hydrographic Organization**. Regarding the scientific research for maritime operations, the International Hydrographic Organization, in consultation with other relevant international organizations, provides necessary assistance to States, in particular to developing countries, where the lack of hydrographic capability undermines the safety of navigation, the protection of the marine environment or the enforcement of laws against piracy and armed robbery at sea.

35. **Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission**. The Commission established a special requirements fund, which is financed by voluntary contributions, to address certain provisions of its Convention (see http://www.wcpfc.int).

III. Measures that may be taken by developing States

36. It is noted that not all of the experience and practices of developed States may be directly transferable and that each of the measures provided in the present

compilation has to be assessed in the specific national context, taking into account the need for an integrated approach as well as international cooperation.

37. The primary focus of the present study is on national measures; thus, the compilation intentionally omits references to steps that may need to be taken within regional and global organizations, programmes, bodies and arrangements. However, at each step States should bear in mind that the potential benefits from the marine sector are substantially enhanced when bilateral, subregional and regional cooperation arrangements are in place. Consequently, it is understood that most of the proposed measures need to be implemented in the context of and taking into account the bilateral, subregional, regional and global instruments and mechanisms of cooperation. Listed below are suggestions for measures to be adopted by developing States in order to realize the benefits of the sustainable and effective development of marine resources and uses of the oceans within the limits of national jurisdiction. A substantial part of the suggestions was derived from information submitted by States in preparation of this report combined with information available in the public domain, including suggestions for major measures that have been identified in policy instruments. Also, the approach taken was to include measures that address the broadest possible range of issues that may have a direct and indirect impact on the realization of sustainable and effective development of marine resources and uses of the oceans within the limits of national jurisdiction.

38. It is hoped that the consolidated list of a number of measures would be used also by donor States, competent international organizations and global and regional funding agencies when considering the expansion of their programmes within their respective fields of competence for assistance to developing countries and in coordinating their efforts, including in the allocation and application of various sources of funding.

39. The measures that may be taken by developing States, in particular the least developed States and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, to realize the benefits of sustainable and effective development of marine resources and uses of the oceans within the limits of national jurisdiction, organized by categories of activities, are listed below.[4]

A. Legal and policy framework

(a) Ratify or accede to and effectively implement the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and its implementing agreements, as well as other relevant global and regional instruments, and comply with relevant policy and/or voluntary instruments;

(b) With regard to sustainable fisheries, ratify or accede to and effectively implement the 1995 United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement, the 1993 Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas, and, where appropriate, regional fisheries management agreements or arrangements;

[4] The list is neither comprehensive nor intended to reflect all the measures identified in policy instruments, such as those agreed upon by the General Assembly, which are already contained in relevant resolutions. It is understood that all measures should be implemented in accordance with international law, in particular the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

(c) Comply with the 1995 Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries of FAO and its international plans of action;

(d) Ratify or accede to and effectively implement maritime safety and security instruments, including the 1993 Protocol to the Torremolinos International Convention for the Safety of Fishing Vessels and the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Maritime Navigation and its Protocols;

(e) Adopt legislation to ensure that there is a proper framework for responses to incidents of piracy and armed robbery at sea in coordination with the approach adopted by other States in the region;

(f) Establish a national framework, including national legal systems and structures, that will foster the implementation of measures contained in international instruments, in conformity with the applicable legal regime, in particular the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;

(g) Enforce the provisions of the Convention and the 1995 United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement, including those relating to enforcement measures, such as boarding, inspection, arrest and judicial proceedings, in particular to deter unauthorized fishery in the exclusive economic zone;

(h) Implement the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities, including through the development of regional and national plans of action;

(i) Promote good governance for successful sustainable development, for example, root out corruption, uphold human rights and adhere to the rule of law.

B. Ecosystem and integrated approaches

(a) Consider implementing ecosystem approaches, in accordance with relevant decisions of the General Assembly and other relevant institutions (see also para. 119 of resolution 61/222);

(b) Implement, at the national level, integrated processes which would allow all the sectors concerned with ocean affairs to contribute in formulating policy and making decisions;

(c) Coordinate, at the national level, strategies and approaches presented by governmental agencies in different international forums so as to avoid fragmentation of decision-making on the ocean issues;

(d) Adopt an integrated approach to national marine policy, including for the protection of marine and coastal areas, in accordance with programme area A of chapter 17 of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, which encourages the application by 2010 of the ecosystem approach (see para. 30 (d));

(e) Take steps to promote public awareness and participation, including through promoting ocean-related studies within their educational systems, creating networks of practitioners and other stakeholders, and eliminating obstacles to good governance at all levels, including through international cooperation and involving other States, agencies of the United Nations system, non-governmental

organizations and the private sector, at the regional level and through networks of regional organizations;

(f) Integrate the protection of marine and coastal areas into policies for key sectors and mobilize resources for this purpose from domestic and international sources;

(g) Consider identifying a focal point for coordination and cooperation on issues relating to oceans and seas and provide details thereon to the United Nations Secretariat so that they can be made available in the same way for focal points within the United Nations system;

(h) Improve, as appropriate, legal and policy frameworks to support and facilitate the application of the precautionary and ecosystem approaches;

(i) Implement modern sectoral management and intersectoral coordination with a view to improving coordination and cooperation at the national level;

(j) Adopt measures for improved law enforcement, monitoring and surveillance;

(k) Encourage adaptive management and enforcement and transparency and accountability;

(l) Consider stakeholders' interests at the level of single-species management, not only at the level of multispecies management;

(m) Allow for meaningful stakeholder participation, through public education, including for local communities, in favour of conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems;

(n) Develop, raise and sustain public awareness and institutional and political will;

(o) Provide or discern information on the short- and long-term market and non-market gains from the adoption of an ecosystem approach (or the costs of inaction) in order to obtain local support for measures aimed at actually restricting certain activities;

(p) Inform local populations of the rationale for taking certain measures, in particular where the implementation of such measures would result in restrictions of access to certain natural resources;

(q) Use incentives to gain industry and community support, for example, through stakeholder involvement in experimental closure of areas, setting objectives and identifying success criteria, as well as through the issuance of permits and rights-based fisheries systems;

(r) Establish participatory management strategies, such as co-management and community-based management, to ensure greater stakeholder participation and devolution of responsibility, in particular in the fisheries sector.

C. Sustainable fisheries, in particular measures to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing

(a) Fully comply with all existing obligations and to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, including through relevant regional and subregional fisheries management organizations and arrangements;

(b) Establish or improve the national system for monitoring, control and surveillance in the respective area of maritime jurisdiction to ensure compliance with the relevant national and international regulatory frameworks in general and in particular to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

(c) Adopt fair, transparent and non-discriminatory measures that will serve to deter illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing at the national, regional and international levels, following the framework of the FAO Model Scheme on port State measures;

(d) Adopt port States measures with respect to vessels involved in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and to address the use of flags of convenience in fishing operations — it is recalled that FAO is developing a draft agreement on port State measures to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

(e) Adopt market-related measures in accordance with international law, including the principles, rights and obligations established by World Trade Organization agreements, as called for in the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing in relation to fish and fisheries products derived from illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and to address the use of flags of convenience in fishing operations;

(f) Address the role of companies engaged in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and the use of flags of convenience and related activities, wherever they might occur;

(g) Establish mandatory vessel monitoring, control and surveillance systems for fishing vessels, including the sharing of information on fisheries enforcement matters;

(h) Expand the use of negative vessel lists to identify products from illegal, unreported and unregulated catches and, where possible, to establish tracking and verification mechanisms to do so;

(i) Promote, consistent with national law, the establishment of positive and negative lists of vessels fishing within areas covered by regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to assist in the determination of compliance with conservation and management measures and encourage improved coordination among all parties to share and use this information;

(j) Establish sanctions for non-compliance by vessels flying the State's flag and by nationals that are adequate in severity to effectively secure compliance, deter further violations and deprive offenders of the benefits deriving from their illegal activities;

(k) Revise national fisheries policy and regulatory framework to ensure the sustainable and equitable use of fisheries resources;

(l) Strengthen all relevant national institutions involved in fisheries management with regard to their organizational, managerial, technical and financial abilities to foster adequate steering capacities;

(m) Review and strengthen the national system for the delivery of relevant services with regard to fisheries management to ensure effective and efficient services delivery to the respective clients within the sector;

(n) Provide appropriate infrastructure for post-harvest facilities (for seafood landings, storage, transportation and processing) to maximize the potential benefits from the sector;

(o) Conduct, in cooperation with FAO and regional fisheries management organizations, national awareness programmes on the implementation of existing principles, rules and guidelines on the conservation and sustainable utilization of living marine resources;

(p) Eliminate governmental subsidies that lead to excessive fishing activity, in accordance with the work of the World Trade Organization in this field;

(q) Adopt a long-term harvesting strategy, in collaboration with the fishing industry, which involves a substantial reduction in harvested stocks;

(r) Establish a committee, composed of members from the fishing industry (vessel owners and crew) and from the public sector, with a mandate to combat discards, fishing in excess of vessel quotas and "black landings";

(s) Involve the fishing industry in the development of rules as well as in the negotiation of international agreements;

(t) Participate in and support regional fisheries management organizations to enhance regional collaboration;

(u) Promote the implementation of modern approaches to fisheries management within regional fisheries management organizations, relying on the best scientific information available and application of the precautionary approach, incorporating an ecosystem approach to fisheries management and biodiversity considerations to ensure that they effectively contribute to long-term conservation and management and sustainable use of marine living resources, in accordance with resolution 62/177;

(v) Address the impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems, in accordance with resolution 61/105;

(w) Seek greater participation of coastal States in fisheries activities being undertaken by distant-water fishing nations within the exclusive economic zone in order to achieve better economic returns from their fisheries resources and an enhanced role in regional fisheries management;

(x) Request distant-water fishing nations, when negotiating access agreements and arrangements, to do so on an equitable and sustainable basis, including by giving greater attention to catch processing within the national jurisdiction to assist in the realization of benefits from the development of fisheries resources;

(y) Create an enabling environment, in cooperation with FAO, for small-scale fisheries, including the development of a code of conduct and guidelines for

enhancing the contribution of small-scale fisheries to poverty alleviation and food security, and encourage studies for creating possible alternative livelihoods for coastal communities;

(z) Make small-scale fisheries a priority subsector in national development plans and in regional development programmes, and ensure that information on the potential of small-scale fishing to meet household and national food security targets is broadcast;

(aa) Promote long-term partnerships between public and private organizations geared towards upgrading the secondary sector to develop high-quality traditional fishery products for national and regional consumption;

(bb) Implement community-based measures, including the restriction of destructive fishing practices, temporal and spatial closures, as well as monitoring, surveillance and control measures;

(cc) Encourage fisheries development through joint ventures with other States;

(dd) Encourage enhanced science for conservation and management measures that incorporate and strengthen ecosystem considerations, including through implementation of the Strategy for Improving Information on Status and Trends in Capture Fisheries and a greater reliance on scientific advice in adopting such measures;

(ee) Strengthen relevant national scientific research institutions with regard to fisheries management to build the necessary academic facilities, capacities and abilities for essential education as well as research;

(ff) Seek greater assistance from States in designing, establishing and implementing relevant agreements, instruments and tools for the conservation and sustainable management of fish stocks, including the enhancement of research and scientific capabilities through existing funds, such as the Assistance Fund under Part VII of the 1995 United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement, bilateral assistance, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements assistance funds, the FAO FishCode programme, the World Bank's global programme on fisheries and the Global Environment Facility.

D. Mineral resources

(a) Seek to agree, through regional seas conventions and action plans in regions where offshore oil and gas industries are developing or are in prospect, on the developments of programmes and/or measures to prevent, reduce and control pollution from offshore installations;

(b) Involve the oil and gas industry in the development of guidance on the best environmental practices to prevent and control pollution from accidents on offshore installations and to mitigate their effects.

E. Protection and preservation of the marine environment

(a) Develop and facilitate the use of diverse approaches and tools for conserving and managing vulnerable marine ecosystems, including the establishment of marine protected areas, consistent with international law and based on the best scientific information available, in accordance with paragraph 32 (c) of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

(b) Compile scientific and ecological criteria, inter alia, for the identification of areas for protection, taking into account those already developed by relevant organizations;

(c) Combat marine pollution and degradation from land-based activities, in an integrated and inclusive manner, in the preparation, implementation and revision of the national sustainable development strategy, including local Agenda 21 programmes;

(d) Ensure that both investment in combating marine pollution and degradation from land-based activities are given adequate attention in investment programmes, in the light of the objectives of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities, and the economic, social, environmental and human-health impacts of possible adverse effects on the marine environment from new developments are taken into account when assessing and evaluating proposed development programmes and projects;

(e) Develop regional and national plans of action to give effect to the Global Programme of Action;

(f) Conduct environmental education programmes and efforts to educate polluting industries in order to clean up the coastal regions in which they are located;

(g) Formulate, with the assistance of international and regional organizations, arrangements to include handling of incidents which could result in major pollution of the marine environment;

(h) Ensure that policymakers have a sound understanding of the oceans and of the importance of the marine environment, and achieve adequate capacity to acquire and use the necessary information and to manage effectively the State's interests in the oceans and seas;

(i) Cooperate with States of the region with a view to enhancing regional action to prevent, reduce and control pollution and to commit resources to such work and endorse such commitments at a high political level;

(j) Take active part in regional conventions and in action plans on seas in order to develop regionally shared goals and timetables in pursuance of the Global Programme of Action;

(k) Mobilize regional conventions and action plans on seas with a view to obtaining assistance, where necessary, in developing the components addressing municipal wastewater of their national action plans under the Global Programme of Action;

(l) Develop national and regional plans for responding to emergencies that threaten marine pollution arising from accidents on such offshore installations;

(m) Develop partnerships with industry and civil society to raise awareness of the extent of the impact of marine debris on the health and productivity of the marine environment and consequent economic loss;

(n) Integrate the issue of marine debris into national strategies dealing with recycling, reuse and reduction and promote the development of appropriate economic incentives to address this issue, as decided by the General Assembly (see resolution 60/30, para. 66);

(o) Cooperate on the regional and subregional levels to develop and implement joint prevention and recovery programmes;

(p) Address, in cooperation with States and FAO, the issue of lost and discarded fishing gear and related marine debris;

(q) Analyse the implementation and effectiveness of the existing measures relevant to the control and management of derelict fishing gear and related marine debris;

(r) Establish and maintain national inventories of net types and other gear used by fisheries within national jurisdictions;

(s) Organize the regular, long-term collection, collation and dissemination of information on derelict fishing gear found within national jurisdictions;

(t) Develop and implement targeted studies to determine the socio-economic, technical and other factors that influence the accidental loss and deliberate disposal of fishing gear at sea;

(u) Assess preventive measures, incentives and disincentives relating to the loss and disposal of fishing gear at sea;

(v) Conduct, in accordance with national legislation and international law, assessments in relation to marine activities likely to have a significant impact on the environment;

(w) Undertake targeted action to address activities that can undermine the conservation and integrity of marine ecosystems;

(x) Develop mechanisms to monitor and review ecosystem health and management effectiveness;

(y) Take full advantage of the regional seas programme of the United Nations Environment Programme to craft a regional approach in order to protect the environment and to manage natural resources and to address the accelerating degradation of the world's oceans and coastal areas through sustainable management and use of the marine and coastal environment by engaging neighbouring countries in comprehensive and specific actions to protect their shared marine environment.

F. Biodiversity and marine genetic resources

(a) Cooperate and coordinate efforts at the subregional and regional levels and take, individually or jointly, as appropriate, all measures, in conformity with international law, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and other applicable instruments, to address impacts on marine biodiversity;

(b) Conduct biological surveys to obtain information that will enhance the knowledge of resources and seas in order to support naval operations and promote the protection of marine ecosystems;

(c) Inspect and monitor activities along the coastline in order to promote the protection of marine ecosystems and conserve living marine resources;

(d) Enhance cooperation with other States and relevant international bodies in the protection and preservation of coral reefs, mangroves and seagrass beds, including through the exchange of information;

(e) Mainstream coral reef management approaches into national development strategies;

(f) Recognize the value of marine genetic resources in terms of benefits, goods and services they can provide, as well as the importance of research on marine genetic resources for the purpose of enhancing the scientific understanding, potential use and application, and enhanced management of marine ecosystems;

(g) Support and promote capacity-building activities that deal with the issue of scientific research, particularly in developing countries, as set forth in resolution 62/215;

(h) Reduce unnecessary regulatory burdens, including ensuing transaction costs at the national level, in order to make research related to marine genetic resources within national jurisdiction more attractive;

(i) Provide legal certainty in the collection process (owing to downstream commercial risk), especially concerning ownership, protection of investment and well-defined benefit-sharing arrangements, through, for example, codes of conduct, standards and memorandums of understanding, in accordance with the Convention on Biological Diversity;

(j) Develop clear national regulations for the collection of samples by foreign actors, providing for the issuance of permits and support of the sharing of research results on the basis of the Bonn Guidelines on Access to Genetic Resources and Fair and Equitable Sharing of the Benefits Arising out of their Utilization;

(k) Ensure that activities with respect to marine genetic resources that take place under national jurisdiction or control are conducted sustainably, taking into account the ecosystem approaches and the precautionary approach;

(l) Take appropriate steps towards fair, transparent, predictable and effective frameworks for accessing marine genetic resources in areas under national jurisdiction, recognizing the mutual need among researchers, commercial interests and local communities for such frameworks;

(m) Encourage relevant organizations, institutions and researchers to consider adopting, as appropriate, codes of conduct, standards and technical guidelines for the sustainable exploration and sampling of marine genetic resources;

(n) Promote further scientific cooperation and multidisciplinary research efforts, partnerships and public and private joint ventures in order to encourage research related to marine genetic resources.

G. Research needs and marine scientific research

(a) Adopt, as appropriate and, in accordance with international law, the national laws, regulations, policies and procedures needed to promote and facilitate marine scientific research;

(b) Ensure that the results of marine science can be understood, assimilated and used by decision makers and resource managers, and that decisions drawing on marine science take, where applicable, full account of socio-economic factors and traditional ecological knowledge;

(c) Seek exchanges of experience among public officials from neighbouring States, with the assistance of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, FAO and other relevant international bodies, in the context of the collaborative work of regional fisheries, environmental and scientific bodies;

(d) Ensure that planning of marine science projects is based upon the specific circumstances and needs of the local communities and national priorities and takes account of the strategies developed by regional intergovernmental cooperation and the global context;

(e) Sustain efforts towards developing the necessary skilled personnel, both by encouraging individuals to engage in marine science and by providing the necessary training and experience, including under the possibility of serving as observers under the right referred to in article 249 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of the coastal State to participate or be represented on board research vessels;

(f) Initiate dialogues at the national, regional and global levels, as appropriate, between those responsible for marine policy decisions and those responsible for organizing marine scientific research programmes, in order to establish, within each appropriate area, the issues on which scientific advice is needed and the best means to provide it, taking particular account, in international cooperation, of the issues important to coastal developing States and their needs for capacity-building and transfer of technology;

(g) Establish appropriate arrangements for submitting the data to relevant national, regional or global data centres, in the context of marine scientific research and monitoring projects;

(h) Give consideration to the appropriate level of quality assurance for the data;

(i) Ensure that marine scientific projects are, from the start, aimed at the effective use of the information generated and are therefore designed in such a way, and are accompanied by such capacity-building and transfer of technology;

(j) Focus marine science projects on: delineating ecosystem boundaries, identifying key ecosystem functions and components, integrating scientific, technical and socio-economic information, developing predictive models and risk assessment, developing performance indicators and assessing the state of ecosystem health, especially in the context of integrated management of ocean affairs; fisheries conservation and management; impacts of pollution on fragile ecosystems; the role of fisheries in the socio-economic welfare; ways of controlling and preventing

unsustainable fishery; ballast water and its impacts on the marine environment; dumping of wastes, hazardous wastes and radioactive and chemical wastes; dismantlement of ships; marine pollution in coastal areas and its effects on agriculture and freshwater; study of sustainable harvest and the dynamic nature of exploited marine species and stocks; exploration of the impacts of ocean harvest on ecosystems, taking into account natural environmental fluctuations and the impact of pollutants on the marine ecosystem, its rational exploitation and other marine ecosystem services; and coral reef conservation and fisheries and the coral reef ecosystem (for details on national and multilateral initiatives, existing or under development, refer to the website of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea at http://www.un.org/Depts/los);

(k) Encourage and support marine scientifi research, in areas within and beyond national jurisdiction, in accordance with international law;

(l) Consider taking part in existing international efforts, such as the work of the Census of Marine Life and other ongoing relevant partnerships and initiatives, including those within the United Nations system, to systematically collect and integrate marine scientific data and information and make it publicly available, in accordance with international law, including the Convention on the Law of the Sea;

(m) Promote regional on board research programmes under the aegis of the United Nations to assist coastal States with large maritime zones.

H. Maritime transport and navigation

(a) Undertake efforts with a view to establishing an updated institutional tidal network to obtain reliable tide prediction information for coastal navigation particularly in restricted waters, canals, bays and roadsteads, and to monitor the sea level nationally;

(b) Implement, as a matter of priority, national legislation consistent with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and other relevant agreements for the benefit of world sea-borne trade;

(c) Promote investments in modern ships through fiscal policies that encourage investment, such as rapid depreciation allowances, investment credits and reducing personal income taxes for seafarers;

(d) Upgrade maritime safety and environment administration by advanced training through the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and through specialized training and academic institutions;

(e) Encourage the development of ship repair facilities through favourable fiscal policies and custom exemption for essential equipment and ship components;

(f) Provide and upgrade reception facilities for ship waste;

(g) Support port infrastructure investments through direct loans or by guaranteeing loans from development agencies;

(h) Gradually phase out existing over-age vessels and ban imports of ships older than 15 years that cannot meet minimum IMO safety regulations;

(i) Actively participate in meetings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and IMO that pertain to global shipping policy, port development and maritime safety/pollution;

(j) In the absence of an effective maritime administration and appropriate legal frameworks, establish or enhance the necessary infrastructure, legislative and enforcement capabilities to ensure the effective implementation and enforcement of flag State responsibilities, and until such action is undertaken, consider the possibilities of declining the granting of the right to fly the flag to new vessels, suspend their registry or to not open a registry;

(k) Take all measures consistent with international law necessary to prevent the operation of substandard vessels, in particular those engaged in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities.

I. Information systems

(a) Facilitate the availability, transparency and harmonization of scientific data within the Government and scientific bodies so that decision-making can be based more readily on scientific information;

(b) Monitor the state of ecosystems supported by the use of data-collection systems, analysis and modelling to inform future management approaches;

(c) Disseminate information to the public on activities that negatively affect ecosystems and the ocean environment and their associated products;

(d) Design profiles of coastal areas with emphasis on vulnerabilities and potential hazards to generate the data for an adequate disaster risk management;

(e) Strengthen information systems in the form of conventional and geo-referential digital efficient flow of data and information;

(f) Compile a biological reference collection that registers the history and biodiversity of biological species in a given area/region is a fine informational tool to track down the changes and variations happening in a specific area/region;

(g) Compile and keep up to date an oceanographic database which contains data on physical, chemical and geological oceanography;

(h) Enhance international cooperation for the gathering of fishery statistics, in particular in developing countries; an improvement in statistical information is also needed;

(i) Design coastal area profiles with an emphasis on vulnerabilities and potential hazards as well as their consequences from natural events and disasters (for example, storms, tidal waves and sea-level rise) to generate the relevant baseline data for an adequate disaster risk management.

J. Capacity-building

(a) Use advisory visits from donors as instruments to raise awareness and decide on the needs and requirements for capacity-building and training support to address specialized needs and requirements in relation to specific topics;

(b) Focus on the development of human resources and seek the assistance of bilateral, regional and international financial organizations and technical partnerships to enhance capacity-building activities for the transfer of environmentally sound technology associated with the sustainable development of marine resources, in particular in developing countries;

(c) Establish focal points for capacity-building and for receiving technical assistance from other States, international financial institutions and relevant intergovernmental organizations and bodies for fishers, in particular small-scale fishers, consistent with environmental sustainability;

(d) Promote training and careers in taxonomy for the classification of marine organisms in research, data integration and conservation, in order to address the shortage in taxonomic expertise, particularly in developing countries;

(e) Focus capacity-building projects, as appropriate, on the integrated management of river basins and the coastal zone, and the development of an ecosystem approach;

(f) Seek capacity-building assistance with a view to raising awareness and implement improved waste management practices.

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Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries

Letter dated 20 August 2008 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

On behalf of the Presidency of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries, I have the honour to enclose herewith the report of the community of Portuguese-speaking Countries to the sixty-third session of the General Assembly, under item 117 (f) of the provisional agenda, Cooperation between the United Nations and the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present document and its annex could be considered under the above-mentioned item of the provisional agenda of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly.

(*Signed*) Jorge **Lobo de Mesquita**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/63/150 and Corr.1.

08-49850 (E) 160908

Annex to the letter dated 20 August 2008 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

Report of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries to the sixty-third session of the General Assembly

A. Introduction

1. The General Assembly, in its resolution 61/223, decided to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session a sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries.

2. The present report portrays progress achieved in cooperation between the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries and specialized agencies and other bodies and programmes of the United Nations system, as well as activities pursued through regional cooperation for the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

B. Political strategic approach

3. At the sixth conference of Heads of State and Government of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries, held in Guinea-Bissau, on 17 July 2006, a declaration was adopted underlining the need for the Community to develop its strategic action in a perspective of interaction with different levels of regional integration and cooperation in which its member States participate. In the same declaration, the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries summit took note of advances in the international projection of the Community, as well as the need to consolidate it, namely through the strengthening of relations with the United Nations and its specialized agencies and through the establishment of partnerships with regional and subregional organizations.

4. Pursuing this strategy, the Community has reached a political understanding recommending the commemoration of cooperation agreements with a number of regional, subregional and intergovernmental organizations. In that regard, the executive secretariat of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification will sign a cooperation agreement, and political agreements have been reached with the African Union, the Council of Europe, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and Organisation internationale de la francophonie for the signing of cooperation agreements, in accordance with the pertinent dispositions of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities through regional cooperation for the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

5. An important development was the signature, in November 2007, of a memorandum of understanding with the European Commission, which we expect will be the basis for great improvements in the multilateral Community cooperation framework. At the moment, the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries secretariat is developing its organizational structure in compliance with the European Community project cycle management framework.

C. Political cooperation

6. At the political level, the Community and its member States, in partnership with ECOWAS, deployed efforts with a view towards introducing the issue of Guinea-Bissau onto the agenda of the Peacebuilding Commission. That political development led the Community and all its member States to become members of the specific country configuration on Guinea-Bissau.

7. The executive secretary of the Community took part in a meeting of the specific country configuration on 23 April 2008, in which he addressed the Peacebuilding Commission, expressing the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries position on the situation in Guinea-Bissau, on prospects of peacebuilding in that country and on the work of the Commission.

8. The Community, ECOWAS, Portugal and the United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNOGBIS) initiated the International Contact Group on Guinea-Bissau, aimed at supporting peacebuilding efforts in that country. In that framework, the Community has been maintaining close coordination with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Guinea-Bissau, with UNOGBIS and other partners engaged in peacebuilding efforts in Guinea-Bissau.

9. The Community and its member States have been deeply committed to the stabilization of the situation in Timor-Leste, the newest member of our organization. In the Security Council meetings on Timor-Leste, the Community Group in New York has been coordinating positions and adding its voice to the deliberations of the Council. Some of our member States are deeply involved in developments in Timor-Leste and are prominent partners of the United Nations and of the Timorese Government in the building of that nation.

10. The Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries executive secretariat, in partnership with the Defence Commission of the Portuguese Parliament, organized on 25 and 26 March 2008, a conference on international security challenges and cooperation within the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries. The conference tackled issues such as international security challenges and new security threats; the role of international organizations in prevention and resolution of threats in Africa; the specific role of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries; and cooperation in the defence and security area involving Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries. The conference had the participation, among other prominent personalities, of the President of the Portuguese Parliament; the Portuguese Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Defence; the executive secretary of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries; the President of the ECOWAS Commission; the United Nations Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs and the executive representative for the United Nations Integrated Office in Sierra Leone.

11. The United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) initiated contacts with the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries executive secretariat with a view to establishing a cooperation partnership between the two institutions, allowing the Community to benefit from the experience and knowledge of UNOPS in its area of activity. In a first meeting, held at the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries headquarters, the representative of the UNOPS Africa Bureau explained the work of the organization, areas of activity and projects in which it is involved. On a second visit to the executive secretariat, more specific details and

aspects of a possible cooperation were discussed, as well as the next steps to be accomplished by both organizations to that end.

D. Millennium Development Goals

12. The Sixth Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries was on the theme Millennium Development Goals: challenges and the contribution of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries. On 5 June 2008, CPLP took the initiative to hold a conference in the framework of the Development Days, sponsored by the Portuguese Government, with a view to assessing the fulfilment of the Summit recommendations and the accomplishment, by Community member States, of the Millennium Development Goals. The conference had the participation of high representatives of member States from the areas of cooperation, diplomacy and foreign affairs and researchers from academic institutions in Portugal, the United States of America and the United Nations Institute for Advanced Studies. Presentations were made on the present status of progress on the Millennium Development Goals, objectives achieved by Community member States, and challenges faced by those countries in their development processes.

13. The meeting reached the conclusion that a group of member States has good prospects to fulfil most of the Millennium Development Goals (Cape Verde and Mozambique), while others recognized serious constraints (Guinea-Bissau). In that framework, the need to maintain the current international efforts of development aid to Community countries was recognized. Analysis was presented by the researchers concerning threats to the fulfilment of the Millennium Development Goals by member States unless more sustainable solutions are designed. Some experiments carried out in the African context were presented, as well as new operative instruments that might be appropriated by Member States for sustainable progress in the fulfilment of the Millennium Development Goals.

E. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

14. The Community has been developing a meaningful cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on a number of initiatives. For the third consecutive year, the Community and UNESCO commemorated the day of the Portuguese language at UNESCO headquarters in Paris. The presence of the Director-General of UNESCO and the highest officials of the organization at the ceremony, which was also attended by the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries executive secretary, showed, not only the increasing importance of the Portuguese language at the international level, but was also indicative of the partnership between the Community and UNESCO.

15. The Community, which is growing stronger, and UNESCO held a meeting on the establishment of a media content shared platform between CPLP public television operators, with the objective of increasing multilateral cooperation among media professionals of the Portuguese-speaking countries.

16. Two projects in partnership with UNESCO are at the formulation stage. One is a workshop aimed at television journalists for capacity-building on HIV/AIDS prevention. The project will be developed in close partnership between the Community, the Division for the Freedom of Expression, Democracy and Peace of UNESCO, the Portuguese Commission for UNESCO and UNAIDS. The workshop,

which will take place during the second quarter of 2008, will seek a commitment for the long term, to support information on the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS. A second project, a partnership between the Community and the Portuguese Commission for UNESCO, is a workshop for the training of journalists of Community member States on the reporting of elections, with a view to joining Community observer missions and reporting on the process of ballot scrutiny, the period before and after elections and strengthening transparency and rigour in media reporting.

F. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

17. In March 2006, an agreement was signed between the Community and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), entitled the Regional technical cooperation project in building capacities on land ownership regime, management of land and legal aspects, aimed at Community member States. The first stage of the project has been concluded; the second stage will be launched immediately after the mobilization of resources for its financing.

18. In May 2008, a technical cooperation project was signed aimed at the formulation of a south/south and north/south cooperation programme for the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. That project, covering all Community member States, aims to contribute to sustainable development and the reduction of poverty in the African Portuguese-speaking countries and Timor-Leste, through two specific objectives: national capacity-building for intersectional and participative planning in combating desertification; a conception of a Community programme to combat desertification, aimed at the implementation of a cooperation programme to implement the Convention as a central element in combating land degradation, the improvement of livelihood for populations in affected areas and the management and conservation of natural resources with a view, as well, to facing climate change.

G. United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

19. A protocol between the Community and the secretariat of the Convention to Combat Desertification has been finalized, and will be signed as soon as possible by the heads of both organizations. The protocol aims, among other objectives, to establish a platform for joint action and cooperation to combat desertification and soils deterioration and to confront drought and shortage of water by supporting the efforts of Community member States in facing the root causes of the problem through implementation of the Convention.

H. International Fund for Agricultural Development

20. On 8 November 2008, the Community and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) signed a cooperation agreement to combat rural poverty in Portuguese-speaking developing countries. The agreement aims at consolidating their partnership and helping those countries to better manage their resources and combat rural poverty. Currently, an assessment is being made on concrete cooperation actions under the agreement.

I. International Labour Organization

21. The Portuguese language continues to be used in the international conferences and working meetings of the International Labour Organization (ILO), in two of the four normative commissions: fisheries and norms application. An increase in the number of publications translated into Portuguese testifies to the increasing use of the Portuguese language at the International Labour Organization.

22. The partnership between the Community and the International Labour Organization bureau in Lisbon, established by the cooperation agreement signed on 4 August 2005, is being fully implemented. The agreement establishes an interactive platform between the Governments of Community member States for the exchange of information and experience in the framework of social security, inspection of working conditions and in the fight against child labour.

23. A partnership between the Community, ILO and the International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour, with the support of the Portuguese and Brazilian Governments, led to the holding of a training course on combating child labour in the Portuguese-speaking countries, held in Torino, Italy, from 11 to 15 December 2006. The programme had the following objectives: capacity-building for management and technical personnel in combating child labour, awareness-raising, collection of statistical data, pedagogical tools, gender issues, operational activities, implementation of the International Labour Organization Conventions 138 and 182, conformity of national legislations and the strengthening of social dialogue and civil society participation.

J. World Intellectual Property Organization

24. The secretariat of the World Intellectual Property Organization formulated a cooperation programme with the Community in the area of authorship rights and related rights, in conformity with a resolution in that field adopted by the meeting of Community Ministers of Culture. It is our expectation that that programme will be implemented in the foreseeable future.

K. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

25. In November 2006, a cooperation agreement was signed between the Community and the High Commissioner for Human Rights, stating areas of cooperation between the Community and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCR). Consultations are now taking place with a view to organizing the first forum on human rights in the space of the Community, with the main objective of elaborating a platform for joint action in that very important area.

L. World Bank

26. In partnership with the World Bank, the Community is preparing the launching of a lusophone education network in view of accelerating the response of the education sector of the member States to the HIV/AIDS pandemics, through the adoption of a three-year plan of action, stating the objectives, the expected results, priority areas, an implementation calendar of its activities, costs and responsibilities for each of the partners in the initiative.

M. Portuguese unit of United Nations Radio

27. On 25 April 2008, a cooperation agreement between the executive secretariat of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries and the Portuguese unit of United Nations Radio was signed, in New York, at United Nations Headquarters, by the Community Executive Secretary and the Department of Public Information, News and Media Division Director. The agreement calls for the exchange of information on the signatories' respective activities and of news content; the joint analysis of the feasibility of creating an internship programme for media and press professionals from Community member States; cooperation to produce joint conferences, seminars, round tables with potential partners in order to promote United Nations Radio journalistic content and the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries website and mission to a Portuguese-speaking audience and cooperation to produce joint journalistic initiatives to promote cultural diversity within Community member States.

N. Other issues

28. The Community member States are strengthening cooperation in other vital areas of their development, for which cooperation with United Nations specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies will be crucial. The fourth meeting of Community Environment Ministers, held in Luanda, Angola, in April 2008, adopted a plan of action with a view to promoting the full implementation of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries cooperation platform. United Nations assistance has been identified as a crucial element in that effort. The twelfth Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries Council of Ministers adopted a resolution on the development of a policy on the seas in the Community framework; the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries secretariat intends to approach the UNESCO International Oceanographic Commission to seek assistance to implement the endeavour. Moreover, the twelfth meeting adopted a resolution on renewable energies and the protection of the environment, recommending the holding of a forum on renewable energies in the Community framework for the exchange of experience, the establishment of partnerships, the identification and implementation of projects, transfer of technologies and institutional capacity-building and strengthening.

O. Recommendations and conclusions

29. Strengthening relationships with the United Nations and its specialized agencies and with regional, subregional and intergovernmental organizations is a cornerstone of Community activity and strategy for its international projection. In the past two years, since the adoption of General Assembly resolution 61/223, relations with United Nations bodies and other organizations have registered impressive development.

30. It is the wish and expectation of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries executive secretariat that the sixty-third session of the General Assembly will adopt a resolution taking stock of the developments portrayed in the present report, as a contribution to the international projection of our organization and to the strengthening of relations with the entire United Nations system.

Lisbon, 13 August 2008

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Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries

Letter dated 20 August 2008 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

On behalf of the Presidency of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries, I have the honour to enclose herewith the English version of the final declaration of the seventh Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries, which took place in Lisbon on 24 and 25 July 2008 (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly under item 117 (f) of the provisional agenda.

(*Signed*) Jorge **Lobo de Mesquita**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/63/150 and Corr.1.

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Annex to the letter dated 20 August 2008 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

Seventh Conference of the Heads of State and Government of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries

Lisbon, 25 July 2008

Lisbon Declaration

1. The Heads of State and Government of Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Portugal, São Tomé and Príncipe and Timor-Leste as well as Mozambique's Minister for Foreign Affairs and Co-operation meeting in the 7th Conference of the Heads of State and Government of the *Comunidade dos Países de Língua Portuguesa* (CPLP) [Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries] in Lisbon, on 25 July 2008:

2. Elected His Excellency the President of the Portuguese Republic, Aníbal Cavaco Silva, as chairman of the Conference of the CPLP Heads of State and Government, for the next two years;

3. Took note with satisfaction of the measures adopted and of the actions undertaken since the 6th Conference of the Heads of State and Government of the CPLP, in Bissau, on 17 July 2006, with a view to upholding the Community and achieving its objectives;

4. Adopted a declaration on the theme of the Conference "The Portuguese Language: A Common Heritage, a Global Future" and enhanced the importance of the dialogue at CPLP level for the pursuit of linguistic policies to publicize and support the Portuguese language internationally, but adapted to suit the situation in each Member State;

5. Reiterated their commitment to democracy, the rule of law, human rights and social justice, pre-requisites for peace and security which in turn are necessary for the development of the CPLP Member States;

6. Within the scope of the political and diplomatic dialogue, they stressed:

i) The need for the CPLP to continue to take strategic action towards boosting its international image, consolidating it by:

– Reinforcing its relations with the United Nations and its specialized agencies, for example, by means of the Protocol on Co-operation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Co-operation Agreement with the Secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa.

– Establishing partnerships with the regional and sub-regional organizations to which its Member States belong, the Memorandum of Understanding it has signed with the European Commission being a good example.

Within this framework, memorandums of understanding will be concluded with the African Union (UA), the International Organization of the Francophonie (OIF), the Council of Europe, the Community of Democracies (CD) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS);

ii) The performance of the CPLP Groups in the international forums as well as in the capital cities of the Member States and of third countries, in fields of common interest; in this context, they called for dialogue among those Groups, as they consider it a procedure that is essential to reinforce the performance of the CPLP and in doing so makes a vital contribution to its prestige and sense of belonging to the Community.

In this regard, they reminded CPLP Groups of the pressing need for regular meetings, prepare reports of their meetings and transmit them to the Executive Secretariat, as set out in the Resolution adopted during the 10th Ordinary Meeting of the Council of Ministers of the CPLP, that took place in Luanda, in July 2005, in order to ensure a good information exchange, improve the content of their work and better pursue the Community's goals.

iii) The regular tracking of the national situation in the Member States, in particular in Guinea-Bissau and Timor-Leste, by helping to identify and relieve problems and seeking solutions to prevent conflicts, namely by reinforcing the dialogue between the national authorities and consolidating the institutions.

iv) The participation of the CPLP, as one of the founding members, in the activities of the International Contact Group for Guinea-Bissau (GIC-GB), whose mission is based on four elements – political, socio-economic, diplomatic and security sector reform – within the framework of the assistance provided to Guinea-Bissau.

v) The inclusion of Guinea-Bissau on the Agenda of the Peacebuilding Commission by the United Nations Security Council whereby the Executive Secretariat and all CPLP Member States became member of the country-specific configuration on Guinea-Bissau. Within this framework, they underlined the need for political stability and institutional capacity strengthening, as well as the urgency of finding solutions to meet the most pressing needs of the population.

vi) The International Conference on Drug trafficking in Guinea-Bissau held in Lisbon, in December 2007, which had the advantage of drawing attention to the necessity of supporting the country in the fight against drug trafficking, namely by providing technical assistance to ensure the national control of its borders and territorial waters, and the strengthening of the judicial institutions and law enforcement bodies.

vii) The decision to establish a Permanent Representation in Díli, whose overriding aim is to promote political and diplomatic dialogue at national and regional level, and initiatives contributing to the

consolidation of the rule of law and respect for human rights, within the scope of the principles enshrined in the Statutes of their Community. This way CPLP will also reinforce its presence in the country as well as in the region, and shape the co-operation between Timor-Leste and their Organization.

viii) The deployment of CPLP election observation missions, including for the presidential and legislative elections in Timor-Leste, taking the opportunity to also express satisfaction with the participation of Magistrates and Members of Parliament of the Member States.

They further commended the authorities of that same country for its capacity to organize these elections, for the people's civic behaviour and democratic living.

ix) The elections that will take place in the third quarter of this year in three Member States of the CPLP – Angola (September), Guinea-Bissau (November) and Mozambique (November).

Taking into account that Angola is boosting its political and economic influence in Austral Africa, the upcoming legislative elections are politically important not only for the country, but also for the Community.

The legislative elections in Guinea-Bissau, that will have to be a key landmark in the stability and political and institutional future of the country, will start an election cycle culminating first in the presidential elections in 2010 and then in local elections.

The local elections in Mozambique, in so far as they institutionalize the bodies of local authority, represent a significant step forward in the process of political and administrative decentralization and in strengthening the country's democratization.

x) The presidential and legislative elections in Timor-Leste (April, May and June 2007) and the local elections in Cape Verde (May 2008) which reflect the consolidation of the democratic institutions in the Member States of the CPLP.

xi) The need to reform and revitalize the United Nations system, in particular the Security Council, in order to make it more representative in the light of the new international realities. Recalling the Final Communiqué of the 2nd Meeting of the Council of Ministers (Salvador, 1997), the São Tomé Declaration (2004) and the Bissau Declaration (2006), they reiterated their support for Brazil as future permanent member of the Security Council.

Still within the scope of the United Nations Security Council, they reaffirmed the provision of the Action Plan for the Future of the CPLP adopted in Coimbra, in July 2003, according to which Member States should become more involved in that Council, reiterating the support of the Community for Portugal's candidature for the term 2011-2012.

Also, the need for the Member States of the CPLP to follow the process of Cape Verde's graduation from the list of Least Developed Countries and to support the transition measures within this scope, within the framework of the United Nations and in other international *forums*.

xii) The following candidatures endorsed by the CPLP within the framework of the United Nations system: Brazil is a candidate for the Security Council membership for the biennium 2010 – 2011 and Portugal for the biennium 2011 – 2012; the candidacy of the Brazilian Professor António Augusto Cançado Trindade for election to the panel of judges at the International Court of Justice for the term 2009 – 2018, to be elected during the 63rd Session of the General Assembly; and Brazilian and Portuguese candidacies for a seat on the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in July 2008, Ms. Sílvia Pimentel and Mrs. Maria Regina Tavares da Silva, respectively, having announced their candidacy for re-election.

They expressed satisfaction with the election of Professor Vicente Marotta Rangel, Brazil, and of Ambassador José Luís de Jesus, Cape Verde, in June 2008, to the panel of judges at the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea;

xiii) The United Nations Secretary-General's appointment of His Excellency Jorge Sampaio, former President of the Portuguese Republic and Ambassador of Good Will of the CPLP, as the first High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations; and of His Excellency Joaquin Alberto Chissano, former President of the Republic of Mozambique and Ambassador of Good Will of the CPLP, as Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General to Northern Uganda.

xiv) The announcement of new applications for Associate Observer status in the CPLP, considering the advantages and synergies that the Organization can obtain from them, as bringing non-Portuguese-Speaking countries closer to the Community boosts its prestige and reinforces it politically and economically.

xv) The need to further approach Equatorial Guinea as a CPLP Associate Observer Member by privileging the diffusion and teaching of the Portuguese Language in the country as well as the fostering of bilateral economic and commercial relations, thus embodying the political will to support the integration of the country into the Community.

xvi) The interest of bringing the Republic of Mauritius closer, a process that involves the elaboration of a strategy to implement its associated observer status in the CPLP, namely within the framework of the diffusion and teaching of the Portuguese Language and in the strengthening of economic and commercial relations between the Member States and the Island Mauritius.

xvii) The importance of granting the associated observer status to the Republic of Senegal; it now enjoys the rights conferred in pursuance of Article 7 of the Organization's Statutes.

xviii) The creation of the CPLP Parliamentary Assembly and, in this context, urged the national Parliaments of the Member States to shape this Community body which will considerably contribute

to the reinforcement of the CPLP performance, thus enhancing the visibility and prestige of the Community.

xix) The signature of the Agreement on Consular Protection within the CPLP, being aware of the importance of the co-operation in this field for the development of their privileged relations; and of the advantages for their citizens deriving either from the generalization and harmonization of the provisions of the Agreements already in force in this area, either from their applicability to all Member States.

xx) The International Humanitarian Law (IHL) as an essential element of international contemporary life and as a significant contribution to the building of a fairer and more peaceful world. In this regard and according to the Constitutive Declaration of the CPLP, they have chosen the implementation of IHL in the Member States as a political priority for the Community and urged to intensify efforts aimed at ratifying or adhering to the instruments of IHL; include serious violations of IHL in the domestic legislation of the Member States; continue efforts aimed at creating National Commissions on human rights for the implementation of IHL in the Member States.

7. Looked forward to the forthcoming Conference of the Constitutional Courts of the Portuguese-Speaking Countries, next November, in Brasilia, an important forum for the exchange of experience with a view to improving and strengthening the judiciary of the CPLP countries, especially as regards the review of the constitutionality.

8. Expressed satisfaction at the ongoing reorganization process of the Executive Secretariat of the CPLP and decided that this process must continue to strengthen the technical capacity necessary to ensure adequate communication between the Presidency of the Council of Ministers and the other CPLP bodies.

9. Took note of the working document "For a New Co-operation of the CPLP: A Strategic Vision for Co-operation after Bissau" and urged the other CPLP bodies to continue the reflection on the principles that should underpin co-operation within the CPLP.

10. Still within the framework of co-operation, they emphasized:

i) The paramount importance of co-operation for the sustained development within Member States, the consolidation of the Community and its image as an international organization, and, in this regard, asked the Co-operation Focal Points to make efforts to coordinate, systematize and detail co-operation policies in order to improve the effectiveness of the actions undertaken within the community, namely as far as its adoption by the beneficiaries is concerned.

ii) The approval during the 12th Ordinary Meeting of the Council of Ministers of the CPLP, of the Medium Term Indicative Co-operation Plan (PIC), elaborated according to the General Co-operation Strategy, adopted in Bissau, during the 6th Conference of the Heads of State and Government of the CPLP.

They decided that PIC, whose purpose is to support the efforts to promote human development within the Member States and reinforce its abilities, should be the main multilateral co-operation instrument within the CPLP and, as such, mobilize decisive and constructive projects for the sustainable development process of the beneficiary countries.

iii) The need to support co-operation actions, first and foremost towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals, having emphasized the important contribution that the Conference "Fulfil Bissau – Challenges and Contribution of the CPLP to the achievement of the MDGs" and the debate around it, within the scope of the event "Development Days", launched by the Portuguese Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Co-operation and organized by the *Instituto Português de Apoio ao Desenvolvimento* (Portuguese Institute for Development Aid), made to this end. This Conference was an initiative launched by the Guinean Presidency of the CPLP, with the support of the Executive Secretariat and Portugal, and took place in June 2008.

iv) The 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th Meetings of the Co-operation Focal Points that enabled to identify and follow multilateral projects aimed at promoting development and the eradication of poverty.

v) The elaboration according to the decisions taken by the 12th Council of Ministers of the CPLP of the CPLP Strategic Plan for Timor-Leste that is designed to contribute to the development of that country by promoting, divulging and using the Portuguese language as a means of daily communication as well as the language used in business and professional life; and by reinforcing the country's institutional capacity in technical areas, such as justice and public administration.

vi) The importance of the Memorandum of Understanding signed with the European Commission (EC), during the Portuguese EU Presidency, an instrument that will enable the development of important co-operation projects with that body, as well as the harmonization of procedures.

vii) The interest that the Co-operation Agreement between the CPLP and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) holds for rural development.

viii) The efforts made by the Executive Secretariat of the CPLP to coordinate the work needed to draw up the future CPLP Strategic Plan for Health Co-operation (PECS/CPLP) aimed at strengthening the health co-operation, particularly as regards the reinforcement of the institutional capacity of our Member States' health systems.

In this regard, they encouraged the Member States to make financial contributions, through the Special Fund of the CPLP, to the elaboration process of the PECS/CPLP, as well as towards the implementation of the said Plan following its adoption.

ix) The holding of a forum on health issues affecting the civil society of the Portuguese-Speaking Countries, which ran parallel to the 7th Conference of the Heads of State and Government of the CPLP, on initiative of Mr. Jorge Sampaio, Ambassador of Good Will of the CPLP for health issues and Special Envoy of the United Nations for Tuberculosis.

They subscribed to the conclusions drawn from that forum, contained in the document "Call for Action" that Mr. Jorge Sampaio submitted to them, whereby they pledged in particular to make every effort, in the future, to enable a regular civil society forum on health issues affecting the Portuguese-Speaking Countries, which will run parallel to the Conferences of the Heads of State and Government, as well as the creation of a Sub-committee to follow up the policies on AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, functioning within the Executive Secretariat of the CPLP, according to the conditions and objectives described in the document referred above, considering the indispensable contribution that an active and organized civil society can make to achieving the Millennium Development Goal no. 6.

x) The work done by the Executive Secretariat within the framework of the technical co-operation project signed with FAO: "*Elaboration of a Co-operation Programme South/South and North/South of the CPLP with a view to implementing the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification*".

xi) The establishment of the partnership between the CPLP and the ILO Office in Lisbon, as formalized by a Collaboration Protocol, through the creation of the interactive platform between the Governments of the CPLP Member States to exchange information and experiences within the scope of social protection, labour inspection and fight against child labour.

xii) The taking charge by the Portuguese *Serviço de Estrangeiros e Fronteiras* (SEF) [Border and Aliens Service], during the 7th Meeting of the Directors of the Migration and Border Services of the CPLP, of the technical management of the CPLP Observatory for monitoring and analysing migratory flows which the interested parties will be able to access, in 2009, through the site of the CPLP.

11. Took note of the decisions taken during the Sectorial Ministerial Meetings and others held since the 6th Conference of the Heads of State and Government, in Bissau, July 2006 (Appendix I).

12. Emphasized the results of the ministerial decisions in the field of Culture and expressed satisfaction at the decision to organize a Cultural Fair of the CPLP, closely linked to the promotion of policies designed to further the creative industries.

13. Welcomed the 10th Meeting of the Defence Ministers, in Dili, and the creation of the Centres of Excellence for Training Trainers in the field of Peacekeeping Operations, which have to be internationally recognized, but are a positive step forward in terms of strategic impact on the reinforcement of the operational feature of the CPLP in the field of Defence under the Protocol of 2006, in Cidade da Praia.

14. Valued the holding of the Forum of the CPLP Ministers for Internal Affairs, during which the Lisbon Declaration was approved with a view to developing the co-operation between the CPLP countries in the areas of security and public order, as well as migration and borders and civil protection; institutionalization of the Council of Heads of Police of the CPLP and the creation of the network of co-operation focal points of the CPLP in the area of Internal Affairs.

15. Welcomed the 4th Meeting of the CPLP Environment Ministers, during which the decision to adhere to the initiative of the United Nations Environment Programme "*Plant for the Planet: The Billion Tree Campaign*" was taken. They also welcomed a meeting of Environment NGO representatives, which will run parallel to the Ministerial Meeting.

16. Further expressed satisfaction at the 1st Women and HIV/AIDS Policies Ministerial Meeting: "*Building Alliances between the Portuguese-Speaking Countries towards Universal Access*", which took place in Rio de Janeiro, and its conclusions. They also took note of the "Rio de Janeiro Charter", approved at the 2nd Congress of the CPLP on DST and VIH/AIDS, also held in Rio de Janeiro.

17. Reiterated the importance of promoting the gender equality within the CPLP, a dimension that the Community has to incorporate into all its co-operation policies, strategies, projects and programmes, thus enabling it to: (i) reinforce education and capacity building policies for women; (ii) promote the recognition of the women's work within the family and the informal sector of the economy; (iii) ensure the availability of health care, family planning and education and an efficient fight against the feminization of VIH/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis; and (iv) promote the prevention and fight against gender violence.

18. Urged the organization of the Forum on Renewable Energy and Environmental Protection, to take place in October 2008, according to the Resolution adopted at the 11th Ordinary Meeting of the Council of Ministers of the CPLP.

19. Noted the decision to develop a CPLP policy for the Oceans, taken at the 11th Ordinary Meeting of the Council of Ministers of the CPLP, and underlined that taking technical decisions on the matter as soon as possible might be of interest to all if it is to be implemented in the near future.

Thus, they urged the Member States to convene a Meeting of the Ministers responsible for coordinating maritime affairs at national level with a view to co-ordinating their views in international community forums and following the actions for the sustainable management of the oceans. They also called for the creation of a CPLP Centre for Maritime Studies – Platform for Sharing Information and Knowledge about the Sea –, to bring together research units at the universities in the Member States with a view to boosting the scientific production, establishing an information network and harmonizing the databases.

20. Took note with satisfaction of the 2nd Meeting between the Advisory Observers and the Executive Secretariat of the CPLP, held in June 2008, a privileged forum for dialogue with its Member States' civil society. In this regard, they reiterated the importance of these Observers as a means to bring the Organization closer to civil society, when participating in the implementation of the projects undertaken by the CPLP.

21. Expressed satisfaction at the Co-operation Protocol signed between the Executive Secretariat of the CPLP and the United Nations News and Media Division, in April 2008, with a view to

strengthening the relationship between the communication and information divisions of both organizations.

22. Welcomed the recent initiatives promoted by the Brazilian Government together with Angola, Cape Verde and São Tomé e Príncipe in the field of e-government, considering the potential offered by the information communications technology for promoting the development and the Portuguese language, whose purpose is to enable the interconnection between the governmental bodies of those countries with a view to sharing knowledge and acquiring technology by means of free software. In this regard, they recommended the search for mechanisms for enhancing the co-operation in the fields of e-government, internet governance and information technology within the CPLP.

23. As far as the promotion and diffusion of the Portuguese language is concerned, they:

i) Took note of the set of projects the *Instituto Internacional da Língua Portuguesa* (IILP) [Portuguese Language International Institute] submitted to the Permanent Dialogue Committee and reiterated the urgent need to support financially, as well as technically, the Institute's initiatives in order to promote and divulge the Portuguese Language.

ii) Also took note of the 2nd and 3rd Meetings of the IILP Scientific Council, held in Cidade da Praia, on 3 and 4 July 2007, and in Lisbon, from 2 to 4 July 2008, respectively.

iii) Welcomed the joint initiative of the Executive Secretariat of the CPLP, the IILP and the *União Latina* (Union Latine) to launch for the first time the Contest "Let us finish this Tale" which has adopted some of the aims underlying our Organization, namely to foster and promote the exchange of young people, in particular in the field of teaching, culture and reinforcement of the Portuguese language.

iv) Urged the Member States to continue to develop mechanisms and forms of co-operation that ensure that Portuguese is the official or working language in the regional multilateral bodies, including of their documents and internet sites.

v) Pledged to make every effort to support East-Timor, taking into account the special circumstances which make it difficult to learn Portuguese in that Member State. They expressed satisfaction at the success of the 2nd Portuguese Book Fair which took place in Díli from 19 - 30 April 2008 and continue to encourage the Member States to participate in similar initiatives.

vi) Expressed satisfaction that the Day of the Portuguese Language in the UNESCO has been celebrated for the third consecutive year within the framework of co-operation between the CPLP and other international bodies.

vii) Expressed satisfaction at the ratification of the Orthographic Agreement and its Amending Protocols by São Tomé e Príncipe and Portugal, and called on the Member States that have already ratified the said Agreement to adopt measures designed to enable its entry into force.

viii) Took note of the 7th Meeting of the Three Linguistic Spaces, held in Lisbon, under the auspices of the CPLP, and emphasized the importance of the multilingualism as well as of the ratification of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions by the Member States.

Urged the Member States to pursue their efforts to implement the decisions taken within the framework of: (a) inter-comprehension of languages; (b) multilingualism; (c) the creation of a Multilingual Terminological Database; (d) the use of the multilingual signs in the Member States; and (e) cultural industries.

ix) Expressed satisfaction at the recent establishment of the Development and Language Fund by the Portuguese Government and urged the other CPLP Member States to develop specific and consolidated policies to jointly promote the Portuguese Language in light of the urgency of an efficient and dynamic coordination of the CPLP Member States' language policy, with the focus on the potential offered by internet for communication and transmission of knowledge, in order to ensure that this common wealth plays an important economic, social and cultural role in the globalization as it manifests itself in the XXI century.

24. Welcomed the CPLP Week, an initiative launched by the Guinean Presidency, with the support of the Executive Secretariat and the Embassies of the Member States in Lisbon, whose purpose was to bring the CPLP closer to civil society and which proposed several cultural activities, ranging from art exhibitions and musical workshops to colloquiums on the CPLP and the "lusophonie".

25. Expressed satisfaction at the launch of the CPLP website and the environmental information website on the occasion of the 4th Conference of the CPLP Ministers for Environment, and underlined the importance of providing as much information as possible on the internet so that the populations and their diasporas have a facilitated access to the decisions and activities underpinning the Community.

26. Took note of the following resolutions adopted by the Council of Ministers:

i) Granting the associated observer status to the Republic of Senegal;

ii) Endorsing Member States' candidacies to Agencies of International Organizations;

iii) Involving the CPLP in the fight against HIV/AIDS;

iv) Temporary functioning of the Regional Centres of Excellence;

v) Granting the CPLP consultative observer status;

vi) Reinforcing the participation of the civil society in the CPLP;

vii) Local power in the CPLP;

viii) Movement of cultural goods;

ix) Food safety;

x) Entrepreneurial Council of the CPLP;

xi) *Instituto Internacional da Língua Portuguesa* (IILP);

xii) Operational budget of the Executive Secretariat for 2008;

xiii) Operational budget of the IILP for 2008;

xiv) Report from the joint audit of the CPLP financial statements in 2007;

27. They adopted the following declarations:

i) Declaration on "The Portuguese Language: A Common Heritage, A Global Future";

ii) Declaration of appreciation addressed to the Executive Secretary of the CPLP;

iii) Declaration of appreciation addressed to the Deputy Executive Secretary of the CPLP.

28. Congratulated the Angolan Government for its efforts to rebuild the country's infrastructures and to fulfil other tasks included in the Government's Programme, a fact that has allowed Angola to achieve excellent economic, political and social results that translate into the economic growth experienced since peace has been achieved.

They further commended the Angolan Government for the set of actions being carried out within the framework of the preparation of the next legislative elections in the country, thus giving hope that those elections will be peaceful. This feeling has been contributing to the consolidation of the democratic spirit in Angola and, as a consequence, civil society is participating actively.

Finally, they thanked the Angolan authorities for inviting a team of election observers from the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries to observe the elections next September.

29. Reiterated their support to the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission as they believe that the institutional, social and economic reconstruction is essential for the recovery of countries emerging from conflicts as well as for the prevention of the latter.

Expressed satisfaction at the decision to include Guinea-Bissau on the Agenda of the Peacebuilding Commission and congratulate Brazil, responsible for co-ordinating its specific content concerning that country, for the commitment to ensuring that the Peacebuilding Commission delivers tangible benefits to Guinea-Bissau – the fourth largest recipient of Brazilian resources to be used for technical co-operation purposes in the world and the second largest in Africa – in the hope that the Commission gradually assumes the role of a United Nations central body in the international community's efforts to help post-conflict countries to recover.

30. Commended Cape Verde for its graduation from the list of Least Developed Countries which will become effective on 1 January 2008, for its adhesion to the World Trade Organization (WTO) which became effective on 23 July 2008 as well as for its special partnership, since November 2007, with the European Union.

They noted with appreciation that according to the information given by Cape Verde the international community follows the graduation process of this Member State through a Transition Support Group (GAT), which has recommended specific measures for the adaptation to the new conditions.

31. Welcomed the efforts made by the Guinean Government towards the complete political stabilization of the country, economic recovery and the fight to stop the national territory from serving as a platform for drug trafficking, and called on the international community to support the current election process as well as the reform programmes in the fields of defence and security, justice and public service, conditions which are fundamental to the process of normalizing the public life as well as the economic and social development of Guinea-Bissau.

Reaffirmed the need to maintain Guinea-Bissau on the international agenda and to this effect a commitment of the external partners to support the efforts made towards its development is needed, and warned of the severe consequences of the current international economic crisis for the economic and social sectors of the less developed and fragile States such as Guinea-Bissau.

32. Congratulated the Government of the Republic of Mozambique for the social and economic progress being made in the country as it contributes to the improvement in the living conditions of the populations despite the hardship caused by natural calamities and the constant increase in fuel and food prices and its scarcity on the world market.

33. Expressed satisfaction at the Joint Euro-African Strategy for the main areas of common interest – peace and security, governance and human rights, trade, regional integration and development – adopted during the Portuguese EU Presidency. They congratulated Portugal for

the successful efforts in organizing the 2nd EU-Africa Summit in Lisbon, on 8 and 9 December 2007.

Expressed satisfaction at the 1st EU-Brazil Summit, held at the beginning of the EU Presidency, in Lisbon, on 4 July 2007, where a Strategic Partnership was launched and the decision to strengthen the political dialogue at the highest level taken.

34. Commended the authorities of the Democratic Republic of São Tomé e Príncipe for the efforts made to overcome the recent political crisis, which enabled the formation of a new Government without having to provide for new elections, thus avoiding the human and financial costs that this process would entail for the weakened economy of this Member State.

They further congratulated that same country for the positive results achieved in the fight against malaria, a factor that will contribute to the attainment of one of the Millennium Development Goals.

35. Commended the Member States for their constant dedication to promoting peace, stability and harmony in East-Timor.

They also expressed appreciation for the efforts made by the Government, the Presidency, the National Parliament and the people of East-Timor towards the restoration of peace and stability as well as towards economic development.

36. Elected unanimously Mr. Domigos Simões Pereira as Executive Secretary for a term of two years and expressed their confidence and firm support for him in the performance of his duties, and welcomed the appointment of Mr. Helder Vaz Lopes as the new Director General of the Executive Secretariat.

37. Accepted with appreciation the offer made by the Republic of Cape Verde to host the 14th Ordinary Meeting of the Council of Ministers, which will place in Cidade da Praia, in 2009.

They also accepted with appreciation the offer made by the Republic of Angola to host the 8th Conference of Heads of State and Government, which will take place in 2010.

38. Congratulated the Portuguese authorities for the excellent arrangements made for the Conference and expressed their sincere appreciation for the generous welcome and hospitality accorded to all participants of the 7th Conference of the Heads of State and Government of the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries.

Done and signed in Lisbon on 25 July 2008.

For the Republic of Angola

For the Federative Republic of Brazil

For the Republic of Cape Verde

For the Republic of Guinea-Bissau

For the Republic of Mozambique

For the Republic of Portugal

For the Democratic Republic of São Tomé e Príncipe

For the Democratic Republic of East-Timor

Appendix

1) 3rd Meeting of the Heads of Police of the CPLP – Brasilia, 10 July 2008;
2) 4th Technical Meeting to discuss telecommunications – Cidade da Praia, 10 and 11 July 2008;
3) 10th Meeting of the CPLP Ministers of Defence – Díli, 16-20 May 2008;
4) 1st Meeting of CPLP Directors for National Defence Policy – Díli, 16 May 2008;
5) 5th General Assembly of the Organization of the CPLP High Supervisory Bodies – Porto, 8 and 9 May 2008;
6) 4th CPLP Ministerial Meeting on Environment – Luanda, 24 April 2008;
7) 9th World Congress of the Association of Portuguese- Speaking Chemists and Druggists – Praia, 23-25 April 2008;
8) 1st Congress of CPLP Economic Journalists – Malanje, 21 and 22 April 2008;
9) 10th Meeting of the CHOD of the CPLP – Brasilia, 15-17 April 2008;
10) 2nd CPLP Congress on DST and VIH/AIDS in the CPLP – Rio de Janeiro, 14-17 April 2008;
11) 1st Meeting of the CPLP Health Ministers – Praia, 11 and 12 April 2008;
12) 7th Meeting of Portuguese- Speaking Economists – Maputo, 9-11 April 2008;
13) 1st Forum of the CPLP Ministers for Internal Affairs – Lisbon, 8 and 9 April 2008;
14) 2nd Meeting of the Heads of Police of the CPLP – Lisbon, 8 April 2008;
15) 1st Women and HIV/AIDS Policies Ministerial Meeting: "Building Alliances between the Portuguese-Speaking Countries towards Universal Access" – Rio de Janeiro, 24 and 25 March 2008;
16) 3rd Ordinary Session of the Fisheries Ministers Conference – Maputo, 6 and 7 March 2008;
17) International Workshop on Climate, Natural Resources and Applications in the CPLP: Partnerships in the field of Climate and Environment – Sal Island, 29 February to 7 March 2008;
18) 11th Conference of the CPLP Ministers of Justice – Bissau, 11 and 12 February 2008;
19) 8th Meeting of the CPLP Ministers for Labour and Social Affairs – Díli, 11 and 12 February 2008;
20) 1st Meeting of the Executive Bodies of the Electoral Administration of the CPLP Member States – 10-14 December 2007;
21) 6th Meeting of the Ministers of Culture – Praia, 2-4 November 2007;
22) 17th Lisbon Meeting with the Delegations of the African Portuguese-Speaking Countries and East-Timor to the Annual Assembly of the IMF/World Bank – Lisbon, 16 October 2007;
23) Workshop on the Platform for sharing television programmes between Public Televisions of the Lusophone Countries and TV CPLP - Television of the Community of the Portuguese-Speaking Countries – Lisbon, 16 October 2007;
24) 4th Forum of Portuguese-speaking Parliaments – Bissau, 13 and 14 October 2007;
25) 2nd Meeting of the Representatives of the Portuguese-Speaking Firemen, during which the *União dos Bombeiros dos Países de Língua Portuguesa* (UBPLP) [Firemen's Union of the Portuguese-Speaking Countries] was created – Lisbon, 11 October 2007;
26) 1st Symposium on Food and Nutritional Safety: A Co-operation and Development Challenge within CPLP – Luanda, 4 and 5 October 2007;
27) 1st Environment Congress of the Lusophone Countries and Galiza – Santiago de Compostela, 27 September 2007;
28) Lusophone Congress – Longevity and Health, *Instituto de Higiene e Medicina Tropical* (Institute of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine) – Lisbon, 21 September 2007;
29) 4th Meeting of the CPLP Foundations – Luanda, 20 and 21 September 2007;

30) 3rd Meeting of the Portuguese-Speaking Rotarians – Atibaia (Brazil), 1 September 2007;
31) 1st Meeting of the Portuguese-Speaking Notaries and Registrars – Praia, 23-25 July 2007;
32) Extraordinary Meeting of the CPLP Ministers for Sports and Youth – Mindelo, 28-30 June 2007;
33) Conference "International Security and Co-operation Challenges within the framework of the CPLP" – Lisbon, 26 June 2007;
34) 1st Seminar on the Main Endemic diseases in the CPLP – Brasilia, 11-15 June 2007;
35) 17th Meeting of the Association of the Portuguese-Speaking Universities – Praia, 11-14 June 2007;
36) 15th Forum of the Association of Postal and Telecommunications Operators of the Portuguese-Speaking Countries – Maputo, 24 April 2007;
37) General Assembly of AICEP – Maputo, 23 April 2007;
38) 9th Meeting of the Chiefs of Defence Staff of the CPLP – Luanda, 10-12 April 2007;
39) 1st Meeting of Focal Points for the Fight against Exploitative Child Labour in the CPLP Countries – Lisbon, 28 March 2007;
40) 1st Ordinary Meeting of the Heads of Police of the CPLP – Luanda, 26 and 27 March 2007;
41) Round Table Platform for sharing television programmes between Public Television Operators of the Lusophone Countries and TV CPLP – Lisbon, 5-7 March 2007;
42) 4th Meeting of the CPLP Ministers for Tourism – Lisbon, 25 January 2007;
43) 3rd International Congress of CPLP Physicians – Luanda, 23-26 January 2007;
44) Conference of the Women's Network of the Forum of Portuguese-speaking Parliaments – Luanda, 15 and 16 December 2006;
45) 1st Meeting of the Entities responsible for the Civil Control of the Security Forces in the Portuguese-speaking Countries – Lisbon, 12 and 13 December 2006;
46) 9th Meeting of the Sports Ministers – Cidade de Salvador – Bahia, 6 and 7 December 2006;
47) 1st Meeting of the CPLP Institutes of Public Administration – Lisbon, 6 December 2006;
48) 1st Congress of the Portuguese-speaking Medical Community – Praia, 27-29 November 2006;
49) 3rd Meeting of the CPLP Central Bank Governors – Luanda, 6 November 2006;
50) 5th Meeting of the Ministers of Culture – Bissau, 28 and 29 October 2006;
51) 4th Technical Meeting to discuss telecommunications – Maputo, 19 and 20 October 2006;
52) 21st Conference of the CPLP Director-Generals of Customs – Lobito, 9-12 October 2006;
53) 1st Seminar on malaria treatment in the Portuguese-speaking Countries – Lisbon, 9-11 October 2006;
54) 1st Lusophonie Games – Macau, 7-15 October 2006;
55) 2nd Meeting of the Road Directors of the CPLP Countries (DEPLP) – Lisbon, 3 October 2006;
56) 3rd Meeting of the Lusophone Foundations – Luanda, September 2006;
57) 7th Meeting of the General Secretariats of the Portuguese-speaking Parliaments – Brasilia, 26-29 September 2006;
58) 9th Meeting of the Defence Ministers – Praia, 14 and 15 September 2006;
59) 7th Meeting of the Ministers for Labour and Social Affairs – Bissau, 4 and 5 September 2006;
60) 4th General Assembly of the Organization of the CPLP High Supervisory Bodies – Maputo, 21 July 2006.

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Item 51 of the provisional agenda*
Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development and the preparation of the 2008 Review Conference

Proposed organization of work of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus (Doha, 29 November-2 December 2008)

Note by the Secretary-General

I. Introduction

1. The General Assembly, in its resolution 62/187 entitled "Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus", requested the Secretary-General, inter alia, to prepare a note on the organization of work of the Review Conference. The present note has been prepared in response to that request.

2. The arrangements set out below have been formulated on the basis of General Assembly resolution 62/187, taking into account the experience at the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002.

3. The following annexes are attached to the present note:

(a) Annex I: Provisional rules of procedure;

(b) Annex II: Provisional agenda;

(c) Annex III: Proposed timetable for the work of the Conference.

* A/63/150 and Corr.1.

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II. Election of officers

4. Rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure provides that the Conference shall elect from among the representatives of participating Member States the following officers: a President, 23 Vice-Presidents, an ex officio Vice-President from the host country and a Rapporteur-General, as well as a Chairman of the Main Committee if established in accordance with rule 46 of the rules of procedure. Those officials shall be elected on the basis of ensuring the representative character of the General Committee. The Conference may also elect such other officers as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.

5. Rule 11 provides that the Conference shall have a General Committee composed of the President, the Vice-Presidents, the Rapporteur-General and the Chairman of the Main Committee if established in accordance with rule 46 of the rules of procedure. In accordance with standard practice, the presidency of the Conference shall be held by the host country. The 23 Vice-Presidents and the Rapporteur-General shall be distributed according to the following geographical pattern: five representatives from African States, four from Asian States, five from Eastern European States, five from Latin American and Caribbean States and five from Western European and other States.

III. Adoption of the rules of procedure

6. The Conference will have before it for adoption the provisional rules of procedure (annex I).

IV. Adoption of the agenda

7. The Conference will have before it for adoption the provisional agenda (annex II).

V. Organization of work

A. Dates and venue

8. The Review Conference will be held in Doha, at the Convention Centre annexed to the Sheraton Doha Resort and Convention Hotel, from 29 November to 2 December 2008.

B. Allocation of items

9. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 62/187, it is proposed that the Conference organize its work around eight plenary meetings and six interactive multi-stakeholder round tables (see annex III). It is proposed that items 1 to 8 (a), 10 and 11 of the provisional agenda be considered in plenary meetings and that item 8 (b) be allocated to the Main Committee, if established in accordance with rule 46 of the rules of procedure. Discussions on the outcome document of the Conference, under item 8 (b), will be held in the Main Committee, while the general debate,

under item 8 (a), will be held in plenary meetings. The six round tables, under item 9 (a) to (f), will be held concurrently with plenary meetings and the Main Committee, under the general modalities of participation utilized at the International Conference on Financing for Development and its follow-up process.

C. Plenary meetings

10. It is proposed that two plenary meetings be held each day, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. All plenary meetings will be held in the Al Dafna Hall. At these meetings, Heads of State or Government, ministers and heads of delegation attending the Conference will be able to make formal statements, on the understanding that the principle of precedence will be strictly applied. Each oral statement will be limited to five minutes, although this will not preclude the distribution of more extensive texts. No delegation will be allowed to speak more than once during the general exchange of views. The opening of the list of speakers will be announced in the *Journal of the United Nations*.

11. The opening plenary meeting during the morning of Saturday, 29 November, will begin with the formal opening of the Conference by the Secretary-General of the United Nations followed by the election of the President. Opening statements will be made by the President of the Conference, the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the President of the World Bank, the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the Director-General of the World Trade Organization. The meeting will also consider all procedural and organizational matters, including the adoption of the rules of procedure and of the agenda, the election of officers other than the President, the establishment of the Main Committee, the appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee and arrangements for the preparation of the report of the Conference.

12. At the beginning of the plenary meeting of the afternoon of Saturday, 29 November, the President of the Economic and Social Council, the two Special Envoys of the Secretary-General for the Conference, the Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on Innovative Financing for Development, the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), speaking in his capacity as the Chairman of the United Nations Development Group, will be invited to make statements. The meeting will also hear reports from the civil society and business sector forums and from the parliamentary hearing, to be held on the eve of the Conference.

13. The closing plenary in the afternoon of Tuesday, 2 December, is expected to conclude with the adoption of the outcome document and of the report of the Conference.

D. Main Committee

14. It is proposed that the Main Committee meet from the afternoon of Saturday, 29 November, through the morning of Tuesday, 2 December, if required. All the meetings of the Main Committee will be held at the Salwa Ballroom. The Main Committee will be seized with finalizing the outcome document of the Conference.

15. The Chairman of the Main Committee will be elected by the Conference in accordance with the provisions of rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure. In accordance with the provisions of rule 49, the Main Committee will elect its own officers. It is recommended that agreement be reached on the slate of candidates for posts falling within the ambit of the Main Committee before the opening of the Conference, thus permitting elections by acclamation and dispensing with the requirement of a secret ballot. To that end, it is suggested that the President of the General Assembly may wish to assume the role of Chairman, with the support of the two co-facilitators appointed for the substantive preparation of the Conference.

E. Round tables

16. It is proposed that the six interactive multi-stakeholder round tables be held, respectively, on Saturday, 29 November, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, 30 November, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.; Monday, 1 December, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.; and Tuesday, 2 December, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. All the round tables will be held at the Al Majlis Auditorium.

17. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 62/187, it is proposed that the round tables be held under the overall theme "Looking ahead: further cooperative actions in financing for development" and address the six major thematic areas of the Monterrey Consensus, as follows:

(a) Round table 1: Mobilizing domestic financial resources for development;

(b) Round table 2: Mobilizing international resources for development — foreign direct investment and other private flows;

(c) Round table 3: International trade as an engine for development;

(d) Round table 4: Increasing international financial and technical cooperation for development;

(e) Round table 5: External debt;

(f) Round table 6: Addressing systemic issues — enhancing the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems in support of development. This round table may also include consideration of cross-cutting new challenges and emerging issues, as well as the subject of "staying engaged".

18. Each round table will be co-chaired by two chairmen to be appointed by the President of the Conference from among the Heads of State or Government and ministers attending the Conference, including those nominated by the regional groups, comprising a total of 12 co-chairmen, six to be drawn from developing countries and six to be drawn from developed countries and countries with economies in transition. High-level officials from the major institutional stakeholders (the World Bank, IMF, the World Trade Organization, the United Nations Secretariat, UNCTAD and UNDP) would be invited to act as moderators in the round tables.

19. Each round table will be open to participation by representatives of all Member States; 21 representatives of observers, relevant entities of the United

Nations system and other accredited intergovernmental organizations; 7 representatives of accredited civil society organizations; and 7 representatives of accredited business sector entities. Each representative may be accompanied by one adviser. The list of non-State participants in the round tables will be established on a first-come, first-served basis. The opening of the inscription of non-State entities for participation in the round tables will be announced in the *Journal of the United Nations*.

20. Each round table will include an initial panel discussion, organized by the President of the General Assembly with the support of the Executive Secretary of the Conference, comprising four or five high-level panellists and a moderator. The panel discussion will be followed by an interactive debate among Member States and other relevant stakeholders. The debate should focus on proposed actions and initiatives for further implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and the outcome of the Doha Review Conference. The two Special Envoys of the Secretary-General for the Conference and his Special Adviser on Innovative Financing for Development, as well as heads of major regional bodies, will also be invited to participate in the round tables.

F. Timetable for the work of the Conference

21. The proposed timetable for the work of the Conference is contained in annex III.

G. Organization of meetings

22. The resources available to the Conference allow for a maximum of four simultaneous meetings in the morning and four in the afternoon, with interpretation facilities, including committees, round tables, working groups and informal consultations. Interpretation facilities can be provided to regional group meetings only when they are held in place of formal meetings or if those facilities are otherwise available.

23. In accordance with the provisions of rule 48 of the provisional rules of procedure, the Conference and the main committees may establish such working groups as they deem necessary for the performance of their functions. Each committee may set up subcommittees and working groups.

VI. Credentials of representatives to the Conference: appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee

24. Rule 4 of the provisional rules of procedure provides that a Credentials Committee of nine members shall be appointed at the beginning of the Conference and that its composition shall be based on that of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly at its sixty-third session.

25. At the sixty-third session of the General Assembly, the Credentials Committee was composed of Botswana, China, Cyprus, Luxembourg, Mexico, Mozambique, the Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis and the United States of America.

VII. Participants

A. Member States and observers

26. The Review Conference, including the plenary and informal meetings, will be open to participation by all States Members of the United Nations, the Holy See, in its capacity as Observer State, and Palestine, in its capacity as observer, as well as intergovernmental organizations and other entities having received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate as observers in the sessions and work of all international conferences convened under its auspices, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Conference.

B. Institutional stakeholders

27. Other relevant intergovernmental organizations that were accredited to the International Conference on Financing for Development and its follow-up process, as well as relevant organizations of the United Nations system, may participate in the deliberations of the Conference, as appropriate, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Conference.

28. In addition, interested intergovernmental organizations that were not accredited to the International Conference on Financing for Development or its follow-up process may apply to the General Assembly for accreditation following the established accreditation procedure. Online registration and accreditation forms are available at www.un-ngls.org/ffd/sign.php.

C. Civil society and the business sector

29. Non-governmental organizations and business sector entities are invited to participate in the deliberations of the Conference, as appropriate, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Conference. Registration will be open to: (a) all non-governmental organizations that are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council; and (b) all non-governmental organizations and business sector entities that have been accredited to the International Conference on Financing for Development or its follow-up process.

30. In addition, interested non-governmental organizations and business sector entities that are not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council or were not accredited to the International Conference on Financing for Development or its follow-up process may apply to the General Assembly for accreditation following the established accreditation procedure. Online registration and accreditation forms are available at www.un-ngls.org/ffd/sign.php.

VIII. Secretariat

31. The responsibilities of the secretariat of the Conference are set out in rules 14-16 of the provisional rules of procedure. In that context, the Secretary-General of the United Nations appointed, in July 2008, the Director of the Financing for Development Office in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the

Secretariat to serve concurrently as the Executive Secretary of the Doha Review Conference. In that capacity, the Executive Secretary of the Conference serves as a focal point within the Secretariat of the United Nations for providing support to the organization of the Conference, in cooperation with the host country authorities.

IX. Documentation

32. The official documentation of the Conference will include documents issued before, during and after the Conference.

A. Pre-session documentation

33. Pre-session documentation will include:

(a) Provisional agenda (A/CONF.212/1);

(b) Provisional rules of procedure (A/CONF.212/2);

(c) Note by the President of the General Assembly transmitting the draft outcome document of the Conference (A/CONF.212/3);

(d) Note by the Secretary-General on organizational and procedural matters (A/CONF.212/4);

(e) Information for participants (A/CONF.212/INF/1).

B. In-session documentation

34. In-session documentation will include:

(a) Draft report of the Credentials Committee (A/CONF.212/5);

(b) Note by the Secretariat transmitting summaries of the plenary meetings and round-table discussions (A/CONF.212/6 and addenda):

(i) Summary of plenary meetings (A/CONF.212/6/Add.1);

(ii) Summary of round table 1 (A/CONF.212/6/Add.2);

(iii) Summary of round table 2 (A/CONF.212/6/Add.3);

(iv) Summary of round table 3 (A/CONF.212/6/Add.4);

(v) Summary of round table 4 (A/CONF.212/6/Add.5);

(vi) Summary of round table 5 (A/CONF.212/6/Add.6);

(vii) Summary of round table 6 (A/CONF.212/6/Add.7);

(c) Draft report of the Conference (A/CONF.212/7);

(d) Draft resolution on the outcome of the Conference (A/CONF.212/L.1);

(e) Draft resolution on the host country (A/CONF.212/L.2);

(f) Provisional list of delegations to the Conference (A/CONF.212/INF/2).

C. Post-session documentation

35. In accordance with the practice followed at previous United Nations conferences, it is recommended that the report of the Conference consist of the decisions of the Conference, a brief account of the proceedings and a repertorial account of the work of the Conference and the action taken in plenary meetings.

36. General Assembly resolution 62/187 provided, inter alia, that the Conference would result in an intergovernmentally agreed outcome and that it would also result in summaries of the plenary meetings and of the round-table discussions, to be included in the report of the Conference.

D. Inputs from all relevant stakeholders

37. Background information for the Review Conference, including inputs received from all relevant stakeholders, will be posted and updated, on a regular basis, on the website of the Financing for Development Office of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat at www.un.org/esa/ffd/doha.

X. Forums of civil society and the business sector

38. Global forums of civil society and the business sector on financing for development, organized with the support of the Secretariat, will be held on 27 and 28 November, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Background information on the forums will be available at www.un.org/esa/ffd.

XI. Side events

39. A series of special events, including briefings, seminars, workshops and panel discussions on issues related to financing for development will be organized by Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and accredited institutional and non-institutional stakeholders for the benefit of the participants in the Conference. The calendar of those events will be made available at the Conference site and will also be posted at www.un.org/esa/ffd/doha.

XII. Media coverage

40. Press materials will be prepared by the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat for journalists covering the Conference. In addition, the documents counter in the media area will provide all Conference documents, as well as press releases on its plenary meetings, round tables and other events. They will also be made available electronically at http://www.un.org/esa/ffd/doha/index.htm.

41. The plenary meetings and round tables, as well as press conferences, will be broadcast live into the media area. A programme of special media briefings and press conferences will be announced.

XIII. Action by the General Assembly

42. **In order to facilitate and expedite the preparatory work for the Conference, the General Assembly may wish to take appropriate action on the proposals contained in the present note and its annexes at an early part of its sixty-third session, in October 2008.**

Annex I

Provisional rules of procedure for the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus

I. Representation and credentials

Rule 1
Composition of delegations

The delegation of each State participating in the Conference and that of the European Community shall consist of a head of delegation and such other representatives, alternate representatives and advisers as may be required.

Rule 2
Alternates and advisers

The head of delegation may designate an alternate representative or an adviser to act as a representative.

Rule 3
Submission of credentials

The credentials of representatives and the names of alternate representatives and advisers shall be submitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, if possible not less than one week before the date fixed for the opening of the Conference. The credentials shall be issued either by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or, in the case of the European Community, by the President of the European Commission.

Rule 4
Credentials Committee

A Credentials Committee of nine members shall be appointed at the beginning of the Conference. Its composition shall be based on that of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations at its sixty-third session. It shall examine the credentials of representatives and report to the Conference without delay.

Rule 5
Provisional participation in the Conference

Pending a decision of the Conference upon their credentials, representatives shall be entitled to participate provisionally in the Conference.

II. Officers

Rule 6
Elections

The Conference shall elect from among the representatives of participating States the following officers: a President, 23 Vice-Presidents and an ex officio

Vice-President from the host country and a Rapporteur-General, as well as a Chairman of the Main Committee established in accordance with rule 46. These officials shall be elected on the basis of ensuring the representative character of the General Committee. The Conference may also elect such other officers as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.

Rule 7
General powers of the President

1. In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him elsewhere by these rules, the President shall preside at the plenary meetings of the Conference, declare the opening and closing of each meeting, direct the discussions, ensure the observance of these rules, accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote and announce decisions. The President shall rule on points of order and, subject to these rules, shall have complete control of the proceedings and over the maintenance of order thereat. The President may propose to the Conference the closure of the list of speakers, a limitation on the time to be allowed to speakers and on the number of times each representative may speak on a question, the adjournment or closure of the debate and the suspension or the adjournment of a meeting.

2. The President, in the exercise of his/her functions, remains under the authority of the Conference.

Rule 8
Acting President

1. If the President is absent from a meeting or any part thereof, he/she shall designate one of the Vice-Presidents to take his/her place.

2. A Vice-President acting as President shall have the same powers and duties as the President.

Rule 9
Replacement of the President

If the President is unable to perform his/her functions, a new President shall be elected.

Rule 10
Voting rights of the President

The President, or a Vice-President acting as President, shall not vote in the Conference, but may appoint another member of his/her delegation to vote in his/her place.

III. General Committee

Rule 11
Composition

The President, the Vice-Presidents, the Rapporteur-General and the Chairman of the Main Committee shall constitute the General Committee. The President, or in his/her absence one of the Vice-Presidents designated by him/her, shall serve as

Chairman of the General Committee. The Chairman of the Credentials Committee and other committees established by the Conference in accordance with rule 48 may participate, without the right to vote, in the General Committee.

Rule 12
Substitute members

If the President or a Vice-President of the Conference is to be absent during a meeting of the General Committee, he/she may designate a member of his/her delegation to sit and vote in the Committee. In case of absence, the Chairman of the Main Committee shall designate the Vice-Chairman of that Committee as his/her substitute. When serving on the General Committee, a Vice-Chairman of the Main Committee shall not have the right to vote if he/she is of the same delegation as another member of the General Committee.

Rule 13
Functions

The General Committee shall assist the President in the general conduct of the business of the Conference and, subject to the decisions of the Conference, shall ensure the coordination of its work.

IV. Secretariat of the Conference

Rule 14
Duties of the Secretary-General of the United Nations

1. The Secretary-General of the United Nations or his/her designated representative shall act in that capacity in all meetings of the Conference and its subsidiary organs.

2. The Secretary-General of the United Nations may designate a member of the secretariat to act in his/her place at these meetings.

3. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall direct the staff required by the Conference.

Rule 15
Duties of the secretariat

The secretariat of the Conference shall, in accordance with these rules:

(a) Interpret speeches made at meetings;

(b) Receive, translate, reproduce and circulate the documents of the Conference;

(c) Publish and circulate the official documents of the Conference;

(d) Prepare and circulate records of public meetings;

(e) Make and arrange for the keeping of sound recordings;

(f) Arrange for the custody and preservation of the documents of the Conference in the archives of the United Nations;

(g) Generally perform all other work that the Conference may require.

Rule 16
Statements by the secretariat

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, or any member of the secretariat designated for that purpose, may, at any time, make either oral or written statements concerning any question under consideration.

V. Opening of the Conference

Rule 17
Temporary President

The Secretary-General of the United Nations or, in his absence, any member of the secretariat designated by him for that purpose, shall open the first meeting of the Conference and preside until the Conference has elected its President.

Rule 18
Decisions concerning organization

The Conference shall at its first meeting:

(a) Adopt its rules of procedure;

(b) Elect its officers and constitute its subsidiary organs;

(c) Adopt its agenda, the draft of which shall, until such adoption, be the provisional agenda of the Conference;

(d) Decide on the organization of its work.

VI. Conduct of business

Rule 19
Quorum

The President may declare a meeting open and permit the debate to proceed when at least one third of the representatives of the States participating in the Conference are present. The presence of representatives of a majority of the States so participating shall be required for any decision to be taken.

Rule 20
Speeches

1. No representative may address the Conference without having previously obtained the permission of the President. Subject to rules 21, 22 and 25 to 27, the President shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak. The secretariat shall be in charge of drawing up a list of speakers.

2. Debate shall be confined to the question before the Conference and the President may call a speaker to order if his/her remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

3. The Conference may limit the time allowed to each speaker and the number of times each participant may speak on any question. Permission to speak on a motion to set such limits shall be accorded to only two representatives in favour of and two opposing such limits, after which the motion shall be immediately put to the vote. In any event, with the consent of the Conference, the President shall limit each intervention on procedural matters to five minutes. When the debate is limited and a speaker exceeds the allotted time, the President shall call him/her to order without delay.

Rule 21
Points of order

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may at any time raise a point of order, which shall be immediately decided by the President in accordance with these rules. A representative may appeal against the ruling of the President. The appeal shall be immediately put to the vote, and the President's ruling shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the representatives present and voting. A representative may not, in raising a point of order, speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

Rule 22
Precedence

The Chairman or Rapporteur of the Main Committee, or the representative of a subcommittee or working group, may be accorded precedence for the purpose of explaining the conclusions arrived at by the body concerned.

Rule 23
Closing of the list of speakers

During the course of a debate, the President may announce the list of speakers and, with the consent of the Conference, declare the list closed.

Rule 24
Right of reply

1. Notwithstanding rule 23, the President shall accord the right of reply to a representative of any State participating in the Conference or of the European Community who requests it. Any other representative may be granted the opportunity to make a reply.

2. The statements made under this rule shall normally be made at the end of the last meeting of the day, or at the conclusion of the consideration of the relevant item if that is sooner.

3. The representatives of a State or of the European Community may make no more than two statements under this rule at a given meeting on any item. The first shall be limited to five minutes and the second to three minutes; representatives shall in any event attempt to be as brief as possible.

Rule 25
Adjournment of debate

A representative of any State participating in the Conference may at any time move the adjournment of the debate on the question under discussion. In addition to the proposer of the motion, permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded to only two representatives in favour and two opposing the adjournment, after which the motion shall, subject to rule 28, be immediately put to the vote.

Rule 26
Closure of debate

A representative of any State participating in the Conference may at any time move the closure of the debate on the question under discussion, whether or not any other representative has signified his/her wish to speak. Permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded to only two representatives opposing the closure, after which the motion shall, subject to rule 28, be immediately put to the vote.

Rule 27
Suspension or adjournment of the meeting

Subject to rule 38, a representative of any State participating in the Conference may at any time move the suspension or the adjournment of the meeting. No discussion on such motions shall be permitted and they shall, subject to rule 28, be immediately put to the vote.

Rule 28
Order of motions

The motions indicated below shall have precedence in the following order over all proposals or other motions before the meeting:

(a) To suspend the meeting;

(b) To adjourn the meeting;

(c) To adjourn the debate on the question under discussion;

(d) To close the debate on the question under discussion.

Rule 29
Submission of proposals and substantive amendments

Proposals and substantive amendments shall normally be submitted in writing to the Secretary-General or his designated representative, who shall circulate copies to all delegations. Unless the Conference decides otherwise, substantive proposals shall be discussed or put to a decision no earlier than 24 hours after copies have been circulated in all languages of the Conference to all delegations. The President may, however, permit the discussion and consideration of amendments, even though these amendments have not been circulated or have been circulated only the same day.

Rule 30
Withdrawal of proposals and motions

A proposal or a motion may be withdrawn by its sponsor at any time before a decision on it has been taken, provided that it has not been amended. A proposal or a motion thus withdrawn may be reintroduced by any representative.

Rule 31
Decisions on competence

Subject to rule 28, any motion calling for a decision on the competence of the Conference to adopt a proposal submitted to it shall be put to the vote before a decision is taken on the proposal in question.

Rule 32
Reconsideration of proposals

When a proposal has been adopted or rejected, it may not be reconsidered unless the Conference, by a two-thirds majority of the representatives present and voting, so decides. Permission to speak on a motion to reconsider shall be accorded to only two speakers opposing reconsideration, after which the motion shall be immediately put to the vote.

VII. Decision-making

Rule 33
General agreement (consensus)

The Conference shall make its best endeavours to ensure that the work of the Conference is accomplished by general agreement (consensus).

Rule 34
Voting rights

Each State participating in the Conference shall have one vote.

Rule 35
Majority required

1. Subject to rule 33, decisions of the Conference shall be taken by a two-thirds majority of the representatives present and voting.

2. Except as otherwise provided in these rules, decisions of the Conference on all matters of procedure shall be taken by a majority of the representatives present and voting.

3. If the question arises whether a matter is one of procedure or of substance, the President of the Conference shall rule on the question. An appeal against this ruling shall be put to the vote immediately, and the President's ruling shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the representatives present and voting.

4. If a vote is equally divided, the proposal or motion shall be regarded as rejected.

Rule 36
Meaning of the phrase "representatives present and voting"

For the purpose of these rules, the phrase "representatives present and voting" means representatives casting an affirmative or negative vote. Representatives who abstain from voting shall be regarded as not voting.

Rule 37
Method of voting

1. Except as provided in rule 44, the Conference shall normally vote by show of hands, except that a representative may request a roll-call, which shall then be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the States participating in the Conference, beginning with the delegation whose name is drawn by lot by the President. The name of each State shall be called in all roll-calls, and its representative shall reply "yes", "no" or "abstention".

2. When the Conference votes by mechanical means, a non-recorded vote shall replace a vote by show of hands and a recorded vote shall replace a roll-call. A representative may request a recorded vote, which shall, unless a representative requests otherwise, be taken without calling out the names of the States participating in the Conference.

3. The vote of each State participating in a roll-call or a recorded vote shall be inserted in any record of or report on the meeting.

Rule 38
Conduct during voting

After the President has announced the commencement of voting, no representative shall interrupt the voting, except on a point of order in connection with the process of voting.

Rule 39
Explanation of vote

Representatives may make brief statements consisting solely of explanations of vote, before the voting has commenced or after the voting has been completed. The President may limit the time to be allowed for such explanations. The representative of a State sponsoring a proposal or motion shall not speak in explanation of vote thereon, unless it has been amended.

Rule 40
Division of proposals

A representative may move that parts of a proposal be decided on separately. If a representative objects, the motion for division shall be voted upon. Permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded to only two representatives in favour of and two opposing the division. If the motion is carried, those parts of the proposal that are subsequently approved shall be put to the Conference for decision as a whole. If all operative parts of the proposal have been rejected, the proposal shall be considered to have been rejected as a whole.

Rule 41
Amendments

A proposal is considered an amendment to another proposal if it merely adds to, deletes from or revises part of that proposal. Unless specified otherwise, the word "proposal" in these rules shall be regarded as including amendments.

Rule 42
Order of voting on amendments

When an amendment is moved to a proposal, the amendment shall be voted on first. When two or more amendments are moved to a proposal, the Conference shall vote first on the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal and then on the amendment next furthest removed therefrom and so on until all the amendments have been put to the vote. Where, however, the adoption of one amendment necessarily implies the rejection of another amendment, the latter shall not be put to the vote. If one or more amendments are adopted, the amended proposal shall then be voted upon.

Rule 43
Order of voting on proposals

1. If two or more proposals, other than amendments, relate to the same question, they shall, unless the Conference decides otherwise, be voted on in the order in which they were submitted. The Conference may, after each vote on a proposal, decide whether to vote on the next proposal.

2. Revised proposals shall be voted on in the order in which the original proposals were submitted, unless the revision substantially departs from the original proposal. In that case, the original proposal shall be regarded as withdrawn and the revised proposal shall be treated as a new proposal.

3. A motion requiring that no decision be taken on a proposal shall be put to the vote before a decision is taken on the proposal in question.

Elections

Rule 44

All elections shall be held by secret ballot unless, in the absence of any objection, the Conference decides to proceed without taking a ballot when there is an agreed candidate or slate.

Rule 45

1. When one or more elective places are to be filled at one time under the same conditions, those candidates, in a number not exceeding the number of such places, obtaining in the first ballot a majority of the votes cast and the largest number of votes, shall be elected.

2. If the number of candidates obtaining such majority is less than the number of places to be filled, additional ballots shall be held to fill the remaining places, the voting being restricted to the candidates obtaining the largest number of votes in the previous ballot, in a number not exceeding twice the number of places remaining to be filled.

VIII. Subsidiary bodies

Rule 46
Main Committee

The Conference may establish a Main Committee as required, which may set up subcommittees or working groups.

Rule 47
Representation on the Main Committee

Each State participating in the Conference and the European Community may be represented by one representative on the Main Committee established by the Conference. It may assign to the Committee such alternate representatives and advisers as may be required.

Other committees and working groups

Rule 48

1. In addition to the Main Committee referred to above, the Conference may establish such committees and working groups as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.

2. Each committee may set up subcommittees and working groups.

Rule 49

1. The members of the committees and working groups of the Conference, referred to in rule 48, paragraph 1, shall be appointed by the President, subject to the approval of the Conference, unless the Conference decides otherwise.

2. Members of the subcommittees and working groups of committees shall be appointed by the Chairman of the committee in question, subject to the approval of that committee, unless the committee decides otherwise.

Rule 50
Officers

Except as otherwise provided in rule 6, each committee, subcommittee and working group shall elect its own officers.

Rule 51
Quorum

1. The Chairman of the Main Committee may declare a meeting open and permit the debate to proceed when representatives of at least one quarter of the States participating in the Conference are present. The presence of representatives of a majority of the States so participating shall be required for any decision to be taken.

2. A majority of the representatives of the General or Credentials Committee or of any committee, subcommittee or working group shall constitute a quorum, provided that they are representatives of participating States.

Rule 52
Officers, conduct of business and voting

The rules contained in sections II, VI (except rule 19) and VII above shall be applicable, mutatis mutandis, to the proceedings of committees, subcommittees and working groups, except that:

(a) The Chairmen of the General and Credentials Committees and the Chairmen of the committees, subcommittees and working groups may exercise the right to vote, provided that they are representatives of participating States;

(b) Decisions of committees, subcommittees and working groups shall be taken by a majority of the representatives present and voting, except that the reconsideration of a proposal or an amendment shall require the majority established by rule 32.

IX. Languages and records

Rule 53
Languages of the Conference

Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish shall be the languages of the Conference.

Rule 54
Interpretation

1. Speeches made in a language of the Conference shall be interpreted into the other such languages.

2. A representative may speak in a language other than a language of the Conference if the delegation concerned provides for interpretation into one such language.

Rule 55
Languages of official documents

Official documents of the Conference shall be made available in the languages of the Conference.

Rule 56
Sound recordings of meetings

Sound recordings of meetings of the Conference and of the Main Committee shall be made and kept in accordance with the practice of the United Nations. Unless otherwise decided by the Conference or the Main Committee, no such recordings shall be made of the meetings of any working group thereof.

X. Public and private meetings

General principles

Rule 57

The plenary meetings of the Conference and the meetings of any committee shall be held in public unless the body concerned decides otherwise. All decisions taken by the Plenary of the Conference at a private meeting shall be announced at an early public meeting of the Plenary.

Rule 58

As a general rule, meetings of the General Committee, subcommittees or working groups shall be held in private.

Rule 59
Communiqués on private meetings

At the close of a private meeting, the presiding officer of the organ concerned may issue a communiqué through the Secretary-General or his designated representative.

XI. Other participants and observers

Rule 60
Representatives of intergovernmental organizations and other entities that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate in the capacity of observer in the sessions and work of all international conferences convened under its auspices

Save where otherwise specifically provided with respect to the European Community in these rules of procedure, representatives designated by intergovernmental organizations and other entities that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate in the sessions and work of all international conferences convened under its auspices have the right to participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Conference, the Main Committee and, as appropriate, any other committee or working group.

Rule 61
Representatives of the specialized agencies and related organizations

Representatives designated by the specialized agencies and related organizations[a] may participate, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Conference, the Main Committee and, as appropriate, any other committee or working group on questions within the scope of their activities. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 62/187 and the practice of the International Conference on Financing for Development held at Monterrey, Mexico, in 2002,

[a] These include the International Atomic Energy Agency, the World Trade Organization, the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons.

participation by the representatives of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization will be afforded special consideration.

Rule 62
Representatives of other intergovernmental organizations

Representatives designated by other intergovernmental organizations accredited to the Conference may participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Conference, the Main Committee and, as appropriate, any other committee or working group on questions within the scope of their activities.

Rule 63
Representatives of interested United Nations organs

Representatives designated by interested organs of the United Nations may participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Conference, the Main Committee and, as appropriate, any other committee or working group on questions within the scope of their activities.

Rule 64
Representatives of non-governmental organizations

Non-governmental organizations accredited to participate in the Conference may designate representatives to sit as observers at public meetings of the Conference and the Main Committee and to participate in the deliberations of the round tables.

Rule 65
Representatives of business sector entities

Business sector entities accredited to participate in the Conference may designate representatives to sit as observers at public meetings of the Conference and the Main Committee and to participate in the deliberations of the round tables.

Rule 66
Associate members of regional commissions

Representatives designated by associate members of regional commissions[b] may participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Conference, the Main Committee and, as appropriate, any other committee or working group.

Rule 67
Written statements

Written statements submitted by the designated representatives referred to in rules 60 to 66 shall be distributed by the secretariat to all delegations in the quantities and in the language in which the statements are made available to it at the site of the Conference, provided that a statement submitted on behalf of a

[b] American Samoa, Anguilla, Aruba, British Virgin Islands, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, French Polynesia, Guam, Montserrat, Netherlands Antilles, New Caledonia, Puerto Rico and United States Virgin Islands.

non-governmental organization or business sector entity is related to the work of the Conference and is on a subject in which the organization has a special competence.

XII. Suspension and amendment of the rules of procedure

Rule 68
Method of suspension

Any of these rules may be suspended by the Conference provided that 24 hours' notice of the proposal for the suspension has been given, which may be waived if no representative objects. Any such suspension shall be limited to a specific and stated purpose and to a period required to achieve that purpose.

Rule 69
Method of amendment

These rules of procedure may be amended by a decision of the Conference taken by a two-thirds majority of the representatives present and voting, after the General Committee has reported on the proposed amendment.

Annex II

Provisional agenda of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus

1. Opening of the Conference.
2. Election of the President.
3. Adoption of the rules of procedure.
4. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
5. Election of officers other than the President.
6. Organization of work, including the establishment of the Main Committee.
7. Credentials of representatives to the Conference:
   (a) Appointment of members of the Credentials Committee;
   (b) Report of the Credentials Committee.
8. General debate on financing for development:
   (a) General exchange of views on reviewing the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, including new challenges and emerging issues;
   (b) Consideration of the draft outcome document of the Conference.
9. Multi-stakeholder round tables under the overall theme "Looking ahead: further cooperative actions in financing for development", focusing on the following six major thematic areas:
   (a) Mobilizing domestic financial resources for development (round table 1);
   (b) Mobilizing international resources for development: foreign direct investment and other private flows (round table 2);
   (c) International trade as an engine for development (round table 3);
   (d) Increasing international financial and technical cooperation for development (round table 4);
   (e) External debt (round table 5);
   (f) Addressing systemic issues: enhancing the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems in support of development (round table 6).
10. Adoption of the outcome document of the Conference.
11. Adoption of the report of the Conference.

Annex III

Proposed timetable for the work of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus

Date/time	*Agenda item/programme*	
Saturday, 29 November		
Opening plenary meeting		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	1	Opening of the Conference by the Secretary-General of the United Nations
	2	Election of the President
	1	Opening statements by the President of the Conference, the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the President of the World Bank, the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund and the Director-General of the World Trade Organization
	3	Adoption of the rules of procedure
	4	Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters
	5	Election of officers other than the President
	6	Organization of work, including the establishment of the Main Committee
	7 (a)	Credentials of representatives to the Conference: appointment of members of the Credentials Committee
	8 (a)	General exchange of views on reviewing the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, including new challenges and emerging issues
		Statements by Heads of State or Government, ministers and heads of delegation
Plenary meeting		
3-6 p.m.	8 (a)	General exchange of views on reviewing the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, including new challenges and emerging issues

Date/time	*Agenda item/programme*	
		Statements by the President of the Economic and Social Council, the two Special Envoys of the Secretary-General for the Conference, the Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on Innovative Financing for Development, the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, speaking as the Chairman of the United Nations Development Group
		Reports from the civil society and business sector forums and from the parliamentary hearing
		Statements by Heads of State or Government, ministers and heads of delegation
Main Committee		
3-6 p.m.	8 (b)	Consideration of the draft outcome document of the Conference
Round tables		
3-6 p.m.	9 (a)	Round table 1 (Mobilizing domestic financial resources for development)
Sunday, 30 November		
Plenary meeting		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	8 (a)	General exchange of views on reviewing the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, including new challenges and emerging issues
		Statements by Heads of State or Government, ministers and heads of delegation
Main Committee		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	8 (b)	Consideration of the draft outcome document of the Conference
Round tables		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	9 (b)	Round table 2 (Mobilizing international resources for development: foreign direct investment and other private flows)

Date/time	*Agenda item/programme*	
Plenary meeting		
3-6 p.m.	8 (a)	General exchange of views on reviewing the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, including new challenges and emerging issues Statements by Heads of State or Government, ministers and heads of delegation
Main Committee		
3-6 p.m.	8 (b)	Consideration of the draft outcome document of the Conference
Round tables		
3-6 p.m.	9 (c)	Round table 3 (International trade as an engine for development)
Monday, 1 December		
Plenary meeting		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	8 (a)	General exchange of views on reviewing the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, including new challenges and emerging issues Statements by Heads of State or Government, ministers and heads of delegation
Main Committee		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	8 (b)	Consideration of the draft outcome document of the Conference
Round tables		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	9 (d)	Round table 4 (Increasing international financial and technical cooperation for development)
Plenary meeting		
3-6 p.m.	8 (a)	General exchange of views on reviewing the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, including new challenges and emerging issues Statements by Heads of State or Government, ministers and heads of delegation
Main Committee		
3-6 p.m.	8 (b)	Consideration of the draft outcome document of the Conference

Date/time	*Agenda item/programme*	
Round tables		
3-6 p.m.	9 (e)	Round table 5 (External debt)
Tuesday, 2 December		
Plenary meeting		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	8 (a)	General exchange of views on reviewing the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, including new challenges and emerging issues
		Statements by Heads of State or Government, ministers and heads of delegation
Main Committee		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	8 (b)	Consideration of the draft outcome document of the Conference
Round tables		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	9 (f)	Round table 6 (Addressing systemic issues: enhancing the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems in support of development)
Closing plenary meeting		
3-6 p.m.	8	General debate on financing for development
	7 (b)	Credentials of representatives to the Conference: report of the Credentials Committee
	10	Adoption of the outcome document of the Conference
	11	Adoption of the report of the Conference
		* * *
		Closing of the Conference